

Fragmenta Prophetica.
OR, THE
REMAINS
OF
GEORGE WITHER, Esq;
BEING

A Collection of the several Predictions,
dispers'd throughout his Works.

Some verified in the Author's life-time;
many yet unfulfill'd, the Accomplishment
whereof seem very probable.

The last Work of the Author, and collected
by his own hand a little before his death.

PROV. 22. 3.

A prudent man foreseeth the evil.

L O N D O N,
Printed, and are to be sold at Temple-Barr, and
in Bishops-gate-street, 1669.



The Shaddow of the Body's here design'd
 Because we know not how to draw y^e mind.
 Of him who soe exactly did presage,
 The greatest Changes of this latter Age
 And 'tis an ill sign of our doing well
 When those are gon who w^d our Signs to tell

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A PREFACE to the following
REVIEW, offering somewhat
therewith considerable.

THis Preface, and the following Review, were not without good reason personated as written by a Third person; yet perhaps may make it questionable, Whether they were done by the Author of the Books abbreviated, or by another hand; but that is not material: For, they express nothing save what may be by him justified in every circumstance; and therefore it shall so pass. He was Thirteen years old when Queen Elizabeth reigned; and even at that time begun to observe both the Works of GOD, and the Actions of Men; so continuing to do, from time to time, whereby (with GOD's gracious assistance) he was preserved from grossly falling into, and persevering in those sins whereto he was naturally prone; and came into the world at a time which gave him such an Experimental knowledg both of GOD and Men, as he could not have had in many preceding Generations; for he hath lived to see Eleven Signal Changes, in which, not a few Signal Transactions Providentially occurred; to wit, under the Government of Queen Elizabeth,

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King James, Charles the First, the King and Parliament together, the Parliament alone, the Army, Oliver Cromwel, Richard Cromwel, a Council of State, the Parliament again, and now King Charles the Second; during all which times, he lived in those Places, and in such midling Stations, between persons of the highest and lowest degree; exercised in Employments, which gave him opportunity to heed what was done, both by those who were above and below him. GOD had also bestowed upon him a Faculty, which (though it be despised, and he therewith but meanly endowed) would not permit him to be altogether idle or silent; for, it compelled him to a consciencious exercise of his Talent, in that, which he thought required at his hand; and to take all occasions from time to time happening, to commemorate, and offer to consideration, those things whereby GOD might be glorified, and his Countreymen benefited in some degree; which duty (though not so well as he would) he hath so well as he could prosecuted to this day.

He begun very early, by expressing and publishing those Conceptions which the Affections and Inclinations of Youth had awakened in him; endeavouring to season them with as much Morality and Piety, as Subjects of that nature are capable of; suiting them to capacities

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pacities of young men, who delight to see their own Natural Passions represented as it were in a glass; wherein, they not onely met with some better things then they looked for, but, with such Notions also therewith mixed, as insinuated into their hearts that seasoning, which made them much delighted with his Poems, and rendred him so generally known, that many thousands were desirous to peruse his future Writings, and to take better heed of that, whereof else perhaps they had taken little or no notice, though expressed by a more elegant and learned Author. It likewise encouraged him to assume all Occasions to prosecute that, which might most redound to GOD's Glory, and the edifying of men in Faith and Righteousness, though it were to his personal disadvantage in carnal concerns. And GOD hath given him comfort therein, carrying him on hitherto through all difficulties occurring, though by impartially discharging his Conscience in such a mode as had provoked many powerful persons to prosecute him with Indignation; for, his frequent reproofs have been very offensive, notwithstanding they were in general terms onely, without personal aspersions, and with as much charity, and tender respect to every mans infirmities, and unwilling failings, as to his own.

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Length of time hath given him so many several occasions to declare what he thought necessary or expedient, that his Published Poems and Writings amount now to about a hundred, besides many never Printed; In which, though he hath exprest much to the same purpose (in various forms and words) yet the same or like occasions warrant the application of the same or like matter and words, as the practise of the holy Prophets and Apostles hath evidenced to be sometimes necessary. For, that Medicine which operates not at one time, doth work effectually at another, on the same persons, or upon those of another constitution: Meats also, variously dressed, are pleasing to their appetites, and well digested by their stomachs, who almost loathed them when often eaten Cook't the same way. And so it is in this case. Wherefore he hath endeavoured to put his Matter into such a dress (otherwhile in Prose, and otherwhile in a Poetical Mode) that it may suit with vulgar capacities, and not be despised by the most Judicious; mixing so far forth as may be decent, Delight and Profit, according to this old Verse,

Et prodesse solent, & Delectare Poetæ.

His presuming to give counsel to them who neither desire it, nor care for his advice, hath much offended many, and made them heedless of that which might have prevented their sorrow;

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row; but it hath pleased and benefited some; and that makes him slight their Proverb, which forbids coming to give Counsel before we are called. And he hath nevertheless prosecuted the multiplying of Doctrinal Remembrances, Exhortations, Precautions and Predictions, (to prevent that which the neglect of them will produce) until they amounted to that numerousness which appears in those Books whereof this is an Abridgment. And, by considering upon whose Promises and Threatnings they are grounded, he hath not been affraid to predict conditionally those Mercies and Judgments which are promised and menaced in those Books here abbreviated. And some will find, that which is not yet verified upon Wilful Delinquents, to be at last as truly fulfilled, as those which they have seen, though the world hath made it one of her Principles to believe and profess; That Prophecy hath long time ceased; because her wise men think, as the Apostle Peter said prophane men would do in the later times, who scoffingly say, Where is the Promise of his coming; for, since the Fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the Creation, I Pet. 3. 4. Indeed, Prophecy is at an end, as touching saving-Faith, or any new Fundamental Articles thereto pertaining. But, the Spirit of Prophecie, as foretelling what shall
come

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come to pass in relation to those Mercies or Judgments, which shall be the reward of well-doing, and the punishment of evil-doers, in this life, is not taken away or ceased, as it hath been manifested in and by many, who have had in our dayes Revelations of such things before they came to pass, and have been living Witnesses of their predicting them before-hand; as also of their being afterward fulfilled; and in particular, of that Judgment, whereby the glory of London was this year consumed, (though that will not come into every mans Creed:) For, before the said Fire, this Author was informed by a credible person, (who was afterward a great Sufferer & hereby) of a Vision representing such a Conflagration in London as there befel soon after. He himself also, had confused preapprehensions of the like effect, when he sent forth his Warning-piece to London, published 1662, occasioned by a sudden Fire in the Night at Lothbury, near the middle of that City, which then consumed the House of an eminent Citizen, with all the Inhabitants therein. Dr. Gell, a Learned and Conscientious Preacher to this City, seemed also to have had the like impressions upon his heart, both by what he communicated to some Friends in private, and by a Printed Sermon of his, preached before the Lord Mayor upon that Text, Mat. 24, wherein

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wherein the coming of the Son of Man, is parallel'd with the coming of the Flood in the dayes of Noah. The same Sermon contains a Narrative (which he avers was attested by many Witnesses) to wit, That about two years before his Preaching of that Sermon, The sign of the Son of Man, even of Christ on the Cross, wounded in his hands and feet, and Angels round about him, appeared at Frankendale in Germany, to the view of Thousands, Three hours together at mid-day. Moreover it is credibly avowed, That a Book was brought to be published a little before the said Fire, fore-declaring what we have seen come to pass, and was refused by the Printer, because not Licensed; and that the same Printer being afterward busie to help quench the Fire, and then seeing that same person passing by, told him, he suspected his hand to be in the kindling thereof: Whereto the man answered, That had he been accessory to such a wicked Purpose or Action, he should not have offered that to publication, whereby it might probably have been prevented; adding these words, That ere long there would be a more dreadful Execution by the Sword, then that was by the Fire; (which, whosoever that man was, or upon what ground soever he spake, it may probably come to pass) and a Famine follow that, if God should deal with

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us according to our demerits.
This Review is in the first place entituled,
An Eccho from the Sixth Trumpet; because,
it allusively reverberateth, and Ecchoes, as it
were, to what was predicted should come to
pass between the sounding of the Sixth and
Seventh Trumpet, upon pouring forth the
Sixth Viol, the sad Effects whereof are part-
ly felt at this day, by many who consider not
from whence they proceed, that they might have
been as effectual to make them happy, as they
will also be to make them more miserable both
here and hereafter. Now if upon the whole
matter it should be questioned (as perhaps it
may) upon what warrantable grounds this
Author presumes this Generation is guilty of
such and so many Provocations, as have ren-
dered it liable to Gods Judgments condition-
nally predicted in his former Writings; he
thereto answers, That beside his personal
knowledg thereof acquired by long experi-
ence, (and the witness which he believes the
Spirit of GOD beareth in his heart thereun-
to) Common Fame is a good concurrent Evi-
dence (especially in this case;) for, though in
many things Fame is a Lyar; yet in such
cases as this, Vox Vulgi is Vox Dei, The
Voice of the People is the Voice of GOD
to their Consciences, bearing witness against
themselves, as justly meriting all the Judg-
ments

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ments predicted by his Prophets, against such sinnes as they have committed; and they alwayes carry in themselves (though seldom heeded) their Accusation and Sentence of Condemnation.

It is no marvel, if GOD's long-suffering is little regarded, whilst he is slow to wrath, and executes fore-threatned Plagues upon some Persons and Places with less terror and severity then upon some other, or upon the same persons at other times: For, now when they came thick, fell heavily and more dreadfully upon them, than heretofore, the greatest number are so far from being reformed, that they grow more impudent Malefactors, as it was predicted it would be in these last times, wherein they on whom the Viols of Wrath should be poured forth, blasphemed when they should have repented. But this excuses not those whom GOD qualifies for such Services (though they shall be bemired and rent in pieces by some) if they shall not seasonably proclaim and reiterate Precautions and Exhortations as often as just occasions are offered; and therefore this Review of Neglected Remembrances, is thought pertinent at this time, though they were heretofore scoffingly termed Prophecies, and will at this day be as little regarded by many; and it is hoped also, this labour will not be quite lost, but have a kindly operation

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on those who are not hardened into a final impenitence by customary sinning, and wilfully despising GOD's Judgments and Mercies; and that they may be likewise helpful to prevent the like obduracie in those who are not totally depraved.

Many who are forgetful or heedless of forewarnings, Counsels and Precepts, which concern their present duties, are so much inclined to listen after those Predictions which presage their happiness or unhappiness hereafter, that, if the contrary were not apparent, it might probably be thought, they were less careful to secure their present, then their future enjoyments; for, they rake together all Predictions new and old, which have a show of presaging that which they fear or hope for; entertaining each other at their Meeting-places, with mutual Repetitions of what they last heard to such purposes, how frivolous or improbable soever. This Vanity, the Seducer of Mankind, and the Deceitfulness of mens hearts, makes use of to divert the prosecution of their Duties to GOD, to themselves, and to other men; and to frustrate those rational and seasonable Predictions and Precautions, which might have prevented the greatest Plagues conditionally menaced by the most holy Prophets. By delighting more to hear what is to come, then what men ought to do; they seem
to

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to think all good Counsels and Endeavours less pertinent to their cognizance and practise, than an unprofitable, uncertain foresight of what is but conditionally predicted, and shall onely come to pass according as the conditions are performed or neglected. But, toward the cure of this distemper, humane Prudence can extend no further than the circumference of its own Sphear.

Predictions expressed in ambiguous Terms, and having neither certain signification or dependance upon ought following or preceding, are ignorantly insisted upon as pertinent to those Persons or Places whereto they had probably no relation. Such are many groundless Figments cry'd about the Streets, and pickt out of Gyplie-like Prognostications, to the abusing of ignorant people. Such are also the ridiculous Welsh Impostors, entituled Taliessen, the Fiction termed the Panther-Prophecie; and Mother Shiptons Prophecies, so called, are thought considerable by some who suppose themselves no fools; and hereby Predictions and Premonitions grounded upon sound Reason, and Divine Truth, are unheeded or neglected.

*However, there is and shall be a Remnant preserved, who can distinguish between serious and trivial Precautions; and to them, that which is here collected, will at some times
be*

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be of good use, though the Author be yet in contempt, and in a suffering-condition. Let those therefore, into whose hands these come, be pleased to accept and improve them as they find cause, giving praise to God, who vouchsafeth timely fore-warnings to all Places, Persons and Societies in every Age; and Memorials of that which brings on Confusion and destruction, to the glorifying of his Righteousness, to the shame of presumptuous Transgressors, and to make future times more cautious; speaking as well by the simple and mean, as by the wise and honourable, in terms fitted unto every capacity; as also in such various Modes as might rouse them up out of security. And, now of late, seeing both dreadful and calm Voices have been long slighted or neglected, he hath spoken to us by all the Elements; yea, by Pestilence, Warr, furious Hurricano's, and devouring Fire, joined together in a terrible Consort: To which is added a concurrent Prefage in the hearts of most men, portending a general Ruine, by their agreeing in that fear, how differing soever their Affections and Judgments be in other things; and doubtless a final execution of Judgment is not far off, in regard their grand Affairs in most places, begin to resemble the Constitution of that Senate whereof it was said, That all the rest of the Sena-

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Senators were ordered according to the pleasure of one among them; he governed by his Wife, she by her Childs Nurse, and the Nurse by her Nursing.

According to our vulgar Computation, this is the Thousandth six hundred sixty and sixth year after our Saviour's Birth, and will questionless, be a signal year, according to the pre-conjectures of many; yet, not extend to the total extirpation of his Malignant Kingdom, whose Reign is to end in the 666th year after he was compleatly enthroned upon the Seat of that BEAST, which was to continue a Thousand years in a declining estate, until the Mystery of Iniquity should be raised out of it to the full height; which time, (though they heeded it not) was mystically foredeclared in their own Numerals, which in an orderly conjunction, according to their simple valuation, extends no further than to make MDCLXVI, comprehending the whole term limited to the Fourth Monarchy, with what should arise out of it, from the highest exaltation both of the First and Second Beast. The highest pitch of the First, the Author believeth (as he hath frequently hinted in his Writings published upon several occasions) was even then at full, when the Lord of Life was crucified under that Power; for, till then it flourished. The number of years comprehending

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ding the Heathenish and Papal Antichristian Tyranny, being MDCLXVI in the whole, was not to be reckoned as beginning immediately after Christs birth, but after his crucifying or ascension; allotting the greatest Numeral M, to wit, a Thousand years, to the said First Beast, and DCLXVI years, to the Second Beast, that being the number of the Name, or Power of that Mystical Man of Sin, whose Reign will probably determine in or about the Three or four and thirtieth year yet to come, if Chronologers have truly informed us of the times past; and History rightly stated the Progress of the Second Beast, to the height of his Power, that we may know from what year to begin that number; But this is certain, though nor the year, nor the day can be precisely known, he hath not long to reign; for, all predictions will ere long end in one; and as it was said a little before the Flood, GOD will not much longer strive with Flesh; but, for the sakes of his Elect, shorten the time of Antichrist, which might else have been lengthned out to the end of 6000 years after the Creation, but that his fury will hasten his own destruction.

This ---66th year shall be a preparative thereunto, though the Romanists insult, as if the Saints have mistaken the time of their Visitation;

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sitation; for, the late Execution of Judgment by devouring Fire, (the like whereof (considering it was not accompanied with the Sword) was never, or very seldom heard of since the consuming of Sodom and Gomarrah) as are also other Epidemical Judgments, prosecuted upon those of GOD's own House, not to destroy, but to purge it. When their fierce Trial hath consumed the Hay, Stubble and Wooden Structures, which they have erected; when self-love, hypocrisie, the Reliques of Idolatry, and such other Babylonish Corruptions (as of old, or newly crept in) are purged out; when the abominable Pride, Idleness and Excess, which have here abounded, to the paralleling of Sodom, (considering what they wanted of what we had) are consumed, which nothing can burn up, except such irresistible Fires as that of late, or somewhat thereto equivalent; and, when the Saints have drunk so much of this bitter Cup, as will suffice to cleanse them; Then shall the Scarlet Whore, and her vaunting Confederates, swallow down the Dreggs, finding themselves deceived in the expectation of those Consequents which their Emillaries have predicted in silly Rimes dispersed since the said Fire, to insinuate that the Executions now in Act, will be destructive to them onely who are departed out of their Babylon, and protested
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against

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against it. For, though the purifying of Gods Family is thereby principally intended, the same Judgments will have concurrent effects from year to year, toward the compleating of that, which will be the final Doom of Rome's Babylon, when 666 years, as aforesaid, are determined after their Myserie of Iniquity was at height.

This Author believes, That the Saints last Purgatory is now commencing, and that it is made signal by the Fire which in this year hath eclipsed the glory, and defaced the Beauty of London, which is to our Israel of GOD, the same which Jerusalem in Palestine was to his Israel at that time. London was the greatest, the most famous, and the most potent of all the Cities wherein the Protestant Religion was visibly professed in opposition to the Papacy; and among other considerable circumstances, that Mercy whereby the execution of Divine Justice was managed, during this years Visitation hitherto, do manifest, that they have a special relation to Gods Inheritance. The most Magnificent, and the Noblest part of this Ancient City was wholly and suddenly consumed; her sad Inhabitants looking on, were disabled to quench it, till it had destroyed (with many thousands of other Structures great and small) above a Hundred Temples and Oratories, beside Colledges, Schools

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Schools and Halls; one of her Temples being reputed the greatest in Christendom, and wherein the Gospel had been preached, and GOD worshipped, and (though not at all times by all according to the purity of his Sanctuary, yet) by some with as much sincerity, (according to the degrees of their understanding) as by any other National or Congregational Assemblies; until Humane Authorities presumed to set up their Posts by GOD's Posts, and Magisterially imposed more than was enjoyed or required by him; which presumption was aggravated by falling from their first love to Christ and their Brethren; which Love is the most signal mark of his Disciples; yea an over-peremptory and too stiff an adhering by all parties dissenting in judgment, to their single Opinions as touching things indifferent in their own nature, bath partly (if not principally) occasioned that overflowing and complication of Plagues wherewith we are now afflicted throughout these three Nations, and in this our Head-City, in which (if we may believe Travellers) both her own Citizens, and Strangers were preserved in more safety by night and by day, and as well and civilly governed according to Moral Principles, and External Forms of Piety, as in any City throughout the world, so great, and so populous; yet the fury of the late Fiery

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Storm most raged, and made the saddest spectacle, and the most deformed marks of Desolation, even in that part of this City wherein they lived who were then reputed among the most generous, the most civil, the most charitable, and the most pious of her Inhabitants; and though the best men had not the least share in that Calamity, it was made tollerable by so many Mercies wrapt up therewith, as do evidence, that God had a considerable number therein, and that the generality were no greater sinners then they whose Dwellings escaped that Judgment. The Out-parts (except at the West end) were graciously spared, as Zoar was heretofore, for the sake of Lot, to be for the present time a Refuge both to them who were chased away by the Fire, and to their Brethren, whose habitations were preserved for their joint comfort; and of this Mercy the best and worst of men had equal portions, in some respects, because their time is not yet come, wherein GOD will be fully avenged on his and their Enemies.

Though probably that Fire was both kindled and encreased by wicked hands, Divine Providence (who permitted those to be his Executioners) carried it on as well against the Wind, when it blew very strongly, as with it, and by taking away their hearts who were successfully active at other times in preventing
such

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such beginnings, permitted it to proceed so far: And when GOD's Fiery Messenger was in the height of his Career, bounded his rage at Paper-buildings, after it had broken irresistibly through thick and strong Edifices of Brick and Stone. It is considerable also, That this Fire was not permitted to extend into those Contiguous Buildings, Streets and Allies, wherein the greatest Oppressors, the most prophane, the most impudent, the most debauched, and the most irreligious persons were commonly famed to have their dwellings intermixt with such as were of a civil and pious conversation; for few or no places were then touched by the Fire, wherein either a publick Theater, or a common Gaming-house, or a notorious Brothel-house, or a May-pole, or a Popish Chappel was at that time standing, which it may be some think, so hallowed the places, that the Fire could not prevail against them; whereas it rather demonstrates, That this Visitation extends primarily to GOD's own People; and that the utter extirpation of Antichrist, and his prophane Associates, is deferred until a time yet to come. Yet, in the mean while, (though few ly it to heart) GOD will inflict upon every particular Member of that wicked Society, in his generation, so much of their temporal dooms as will amount to the whole at their lives

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lives end; and therefore seeing their last doom (for ought they know) may be too morrow, or this present hour, it will be dangerous to defer penitence, because they think the last day of Judgment may be far off. This, and the preceding Affirmatives will peradventure be distastful to those Time-pleasing Parasites, (as also to them who delight in gross flatteries) who preach Peace, and prognosticate glorious Consequences to the Proceedings of this Generation. But the Wrath of such will not prevent the failing of their unwarrantable Expectations.

GOD's Promises and Threatnings, unto all. Predicted are, with a Conditional Express or Tacit; and (although they seem Pronounced absolutely, at some time) May be reversible according to Our Faith, and acting what we ought to do: For, we are taught by many Presidents, That, like Proceedings will have like events, Till somewhat interveneth to dispense Judgment and Mercy with a difference. Most part of what this Author did predict, Hath variously already took effect: And, if ought is deferred, or abated, Of that which was by him prognosticated Against this Generation, or this Place, 'Tis meerly an effect of GOD's free-grace,

By

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By him vouchsafed, for their sakes, by whom
A seed must be preserv'd till he shall come,
Whose coming, & whose reign will put an end
To all their sufferings, who for him attend
In faithful patience, and he will enable
To bear mean while, what seems intolerable.

That, nothing contained in the following Review, may justly be suspected, as therein to lately shufled, a Catalogue of the Imprinted Books, out of which it was gathered as they come to hand, (being gotten together with much difficulty) shall be added in the close, with a direction to the pages wherein their abbreviation is begun, corrected in those places, where faults have escaped at the Press, there being very many, by reason of the Authors not being present, and there are some such gross mistakes, that he could hardly make out his own meaning. It shall mention also the years wherein the said Books were the first, or a second time imprinted; in which it is to be heeded, that the Book-sellers usually post-date the first Impressions, that the Books may seem new a little the longer.

This is as much as shall be offered for a Preludium to the following Review; concluded with humbly desiring their Prayers to whom this shall come, that this, and all the Authors endeavours may be sanctified to the glory
of

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of God; and to the rendring of his Judgments and Mercies effectual to the salvation of our souls, by true Faith, hearty Penitence and mutual love in Christ Jesus; and they are also desired not to impute to a corrupt self-end, his now purposed with drawing from this City: For, he hath been this Illes Remembrancer, and continued with this City both in her sicknesses and health, in War and Peace, almost sixty years together, (with a little absence at some times) taking all occasions hitherto offered, to remember her from time to time, of such things as he thought might probably conduce to her welfare; insomuch, that he now knows not what he can say or do, more than he hath already said or done to that purpose; he not having so much regard vouchsafed for his good intentions, from any of her Chiefs, as might have been expected for penning one Speech to illustrate her Lord Mayor's Pageants; though he was often (for no ill-deserving) a close Prisoner within her Jurisdiction, so despoiled of all whereby to clothe and feed him, that he had then perished, if a few Strangers, and some of her Midling and Inferior Citizens had not by GOD's Mercy, been charitably inclined to compassionate his condition: That Strait being still the same, and many of those now dead, some impoverished, and the remainder, for the most part, so scattered since

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since the late Pestilence and Fire, that nor he nor they now know where to find each other without much difficulty; he being wearied, and almost worn out, is constrained to prepare a Retreating place for himself and his Consort, which he hath prepared at a lonely Habitation in his Native Countrey, (where he neither had, or look't for much respect) Thither he resolves to retire with as much speed as he can, there to wait upon Gods future Dispensations during the remainder of his life, or until Providence otherwise disposeth of him; not doubting, but that he shall rest therewith gratefully contented, wheresoever it shall be, because he hath had assurance by many demonstrations of GOD's good will to the whole humane Nature, of a special love to him; and well knows his Eternal Mercy to be Infinite over all his works.

Though Lot a while in Zoar stai'd,
There long to abide he was afraid;
And many now begin to fear
There will be little safety here;
Because they see, hear and believe
What makes them both to fear and grieve.
Yet, in his place let each man stay
Until God calleth him away,
By straitning of his path-ways here,
Or, by enlarging them elsewhere.

D

And,

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And, let him careful be, that whither
He moves, he bears not our *sinnes* thither;
For, to what place soe're we go,
The same *sinns* bring the same *Plagues* too.
And, there is means of saving-Grace
For *Penitents*, in ev'ry place.

A



A Review of
Neglected Remembrances.

Being a Breviate of the most considerable
Remembrances and Predictions dispersed
 in the Books hereafter specified, and
 published at several times, upon such
 various *Occasions* as inclined the Author
 to those *Prophetical Expressions*.

THis *Collection* begins with a *Review* of the
Poem called *BRITANS REMEM-*
BRANCER, written during the great
Pestilence raging in the year 1625. The
Title-page of that Book is a considerable *Predicti-*
on both *Emblematically*, and *in words*. For therein
 was represented a *Black Cloud* hovering over this
Island, with *Justice* and *Mercy* thereon seated, at-
 tended with an *Host* of *Plagues*; and in the oppo-
 site page the meaning of that *Title* expressed in
 these following words:

Behold, and mark, and mind ye British Nationt
This dreadful Vision of my Contemplations:
Before the Throne of Heaven I saw, methought,
This famous Island into question brought;
With better Ears then these my body wear,
I heard Impartial Justice to declare

GOD's *Benefits*, our *Thankfulness*, and what
 Small heed his *Love* or *Judgments* here begar.
 I heeded how *Eternal Mercy* strove
 GOD's just deserved Vengeance to remove;
 But, so our sins encreas'd, and cry'd so loud,
 That, at the last, I saw a *dismal Cloud*
 Exceeding black, as from the *Sea* ascending,
 And over all this *Isle* it self extending,
 With such thick foggy vapours, that their steams
 Seem'd for a while, to darken *Mercy's* beams,
 Within that dreadful *Cloud*, I did behold
 Most *Plagues* and *Punishments* that name I could;
 Expecting, with a trembling heart, each hour,
 GOD should that *Tempest* on this *Island* pour.
 Yet better hopes appear'd; for, lo the Raies
 Of *Mercy* pierc'd the *Cloud*, and made such waies
 Quite through those *Exhalations*, that mine eye
 Did this *Inscription* thereupon espye (what said
BRITANS REMEMBRANCER, and some-
 These words, me thought, *The storm is yet delaid;*
And, if you do not Penitence defer,
This Cloud is onely a Remembrancer:
But if you still affect Impiety,
Expect ere long what this may signifie.

This having seen and heard, it seem'd nor fit
 Nor safe for me to slight or smother it:
 And therefore, thus, both to your eyes and ears,
 I offer here what unto mine appears;
 Judge, *Readers*, as ye please, of *this* or *me*,
Truth will be true, how ere it censur'd be.

In the last Page of the Epistle to the *King*, be-
 fore that *Poem*, there is a confident *Presage* rela-
 ting both to the said *Poem*, and to the *Author*
 thereof,

Neglected Remembrances, &c. 5

thereof, hitherto made good; the words are these :

——— I know, what ere the spight of man
Against this *Poem* speak or practise can,
It shall continue when all they are rotten,
Or live in Infamy, or dye forgotten,
Who shall oppose it. I more over know,
That dead or living, I esteem'd shall grow
For what they blame, &c.

To maintain confidence in the *Authors* prosecution of his duty, it was thus prefaced unto his heart, as it is recorded *Canto 5. fol. 155.*

Thou hast from Heaven, an *Arrant* yet to do,
Which (unless GOD prevent) will call thee to
New Troubles, and more mischiefs bring upon thee,
Then all thy former *Messages* brought on thee :
And be assur'd the *Devil* will devise
What may disparage thee, to scandalize,
And ineffectual every thing to make,
Which, to good purpose, thou shalt undertake.
Thou must prepare thy self to hear the Noise
Of causeless *Threatnings*; and the foolish Voice
Of *Ignorant Reprovers*; and expect
The bitter Censures of each giddy *Seet* :
Thou must contented be to hear great *Lords*
Talk without reason, big imperious words ;
Although with meekness thou shalt make repair,
When thou art summon'd, to the Scorners Chair,
Where they with jeers and flouts, will take in hand
To censure what they do not understand, &c. —

---But

—But, fear them not, for he that in all places,
 From every danger, and from all disgraces,
 Hath hitherto preserv'd thee, will secure
 Thy person now. That hand which did procure
 Relief from thy *close Thralldomes*, and maintain'd
 Contentment when from liberty restrain'd,
 Will be the same for ever, &c.

For to this *Realm* and *City* thou art sent
 To warn them that they speedily repent :
 To shew them for what failings and offences
 GOD sendeth *Famines, Wars* and *Pestilences*;
 And, to pronounce what other *Plagues* will come,
 If their transgressions they depart not from, &c.

In folio 106, and in the following leaves, this
Author declared how desolate that Plague had made
 many places in and near *London*; particularly, the
Kings House, the *Innes of Court*, *Westminster-Hall*,
 and the *Parliament-House*; which produced this
 expression, amounting to a Prefage :

—there did I
 Behold two *Traitors heads* which pearcht on high,
 Did shew their *teeth*, as if they had been grinning
 At our Afflictions, which are now beginning ;
 For their wide *Eye-holes*, me thought, star'd, as tho
 They look't to see that *House* should overthrow
It self, which they with *Powder* up had blown,
 Had not GOD *them*, and their *device* o'rethrown.

Also in the 107th leaf, he taking notice of the
 desolate Houses of the *Citizens*, *Peers* and *Lawyers*,
 at that time, hath words to this effect :

-----with

— with I shall,
 That they their *ways* to mind would better call,
 Lest both their *Countrey* and their *City-Piles*
 Be smoaking seen, and burning many miles, &c.
 — or else lest there,

Some fear *Arrestings*, where no *Serjeants* are;
 For, this portends, that, if they who profess
 Our *Laws*, continue on their practises,
 Till they (as heretofore the *Clergy* were)
 Are more in number than the Land can bear,
 Their goodly *Palaces* will spue them forth
 As Excrements that are of little worth;
 And be disposed of, as now they see
 Old *Priories* and *Monasteries* be.

In the 120th, and in many following leaves, the
 said *Author* having contemplated how numerously
 the *Fields* near *London* were frequented for Recrea-
 tion, with people of all sorts, before that *Infection*;
 how desolate they then were, and what sudden ef-
 fects would probably ensue, if GOD should with-
 draw that *Plague* before we were truly penitent;
 other future *Judgements* are there mentioned, as im-
 plicitely prefaced in these words:

If GOD should whistle for those armed Bands
 Which now are wasting other *Christian Lands*,
 To put in action on our *Cemrick Stage*
 The *Tragedies* of *War*, and brutish rage,
 What *Lamentations* would here then be made,
 And calling into mind the peace we had?
 Should we in every house at board and bed
 Have *Soldiers* and rude *Captains* billeted,

That

That would command and swagger as if they
 Kept all the *Townships* where they lodg, in pay,
 To wait upon their pleasures? Or should see
 Our own *Defenders* our *Devourers* be?
 Should we behold those *Fields* where now we sport,
 Cut out in *Trenches*; here a *Warlike Fort*,
 Another there; a *Sconce* not far from that,
 A *new-rai'd Mount*, &c.

After many other pre-supposals to this effect, he
 thus proceeded, fol. 123.

As heretofore the unpeopled *Fields* I walk'd,
 To this effect my thoughts within me talk'd;
 Yea, when all present *Objects* gave content,
 My heart did such *Idea's* represent
 Of *Judgments* likely to be cast upon
 So great a *City*, and a sinful one;
 That much I feared, I should live to see
 Some such *Afflictions* as here mentioned be.

According to what his heart had presaged, and
 was then presupposed, he lived to behold about
 Eighteen years after, such *Insolencies* committed
 by the *Armies*, such *Forts* raised, and such *Trenches*
 in the *Fields* round about *London*.

Many other fore-expressions to the same purpose
 were dictated to this *Author*, as more at large ap-
 pears in several pages of the same Book; and after
 enumerating several *Transgressions* and *Provocations*
 of GOD's Wrath, it was thus predicated in the
 8th Canto, fol. 255:

If thou, oh *Britan*, dreaming all is well,
Shalt slight this *Message* which my *Muses* tell;
And scorn their counsel, &c.

— hear then what I am bold
To tell thee, as now fitting to be told;
For, I will tell thy Fortune, which, when they
Who are unborn shall read another day,
They will believe then, that *GOD* did infuse
Into thy *Poet* a *Prophetic* *Muse* :
Moreover know, that he did him prefer
To be, to this *Isle* his *Remembrancer*;
And that if willfully thou stop thine ear,
Or burn these *Rowles*, in which recorded are
Thy just *Inditements*, they shall written be
With new additions, deeply stamp'd on thee,
In such *Characters*, that no time shall raise
Their fatal *Image* from thy scarred face.

— though thou watch and ward,
And all thy *Forts* and *Havens* strongly guard;
Though thou shalt multiply thine *Island-Forces*,
Double thy *Trained Bands*, and *Troups of Horses*;
Though like an *Eagle*, shalt thy wings d'splay,
And (high thy head advancing) proudly say,
I sit aloft, enthron'd so, that none
Can pluck me from the place I rest upon :
Yet, sure thou shalt be humbled, and brought low,
Ev'n then, when least thou fear'd it it will be so.

Till thou repent, all *Preparations* made
For thy *Defence*, or, others to invade,
Shall be in vain; and still the greater cost
Thou dost bestow, the *Honour* thereby lost
Shall be the greater; and thy wasting strength
Bring on thee a *Consumption* at the length.

The *Treaties* which for *Peace* or *Profit* be,
 Shall neither *Peace* nor *Profit* bring to thee.
 For, if Endeavours prosper for a while,
 GOD will permit it onely to beguile
 With foolish hopes, alluring them to run
 Those courses which will bring new mischiefs on :
 Yea, thy *prevailings* will but fewel be
 To feed the folly which bewitches thee ;
 And, make against thee, those the more enrag'd,
 Who shall for thy *Corrections* be engag'd.

What heretofore, by GOD, hath threatned bin
 Against a wicked *Nation* for their sin,
 Shall seize on thee; his hand shall be for ill
 Upon each little, and high raised Hill :
 Thy lofty Cedars, and thy sturdy Oaks,
 Shall feel the fury of his thunder-stroaks
 Upon thy *Fleets*, thy *Havens* and thy *Ports* ;
 Upon thine *Armies*, and thy strong-wall'd *Forts*,
 Upon thy *Pleasures* and *Commodities*,
 Upon thy *Handicrafts* and *Merchandise*,
 Upon the *Fruits* and *Cattel* in thy Fields,
 On what the *air*, the *earth* or *water* yields :
 On *Prince* and *people*, on both *weak* and *strong* ,
 On *Priest* and *Prophet*, on both *old* and *young* :
 Yea, on each *Person*, *Place*, and ev'ry thing,
 His just deserved *Judgments*, GOD will bring..

What thou hast *hoped* for, he frustrate shall,
 And make that which thou *fear'st*, on thee to fall.
 This *pleasant Land* wherein now plenty grows ,
 And wherein Milk and Honey overflows ,
 Shall for thy *peoples wickedness*, be made
 As barren as the Soil which never had
 Such blessings in it. GOD shall drive away
 The Flocks of Fowles, and Sholes of Fish that play
 With-

Within thy waters now; and for the store (more:
Whereof, thy *Neighbours* would have prais'd him
The *Rivers* which have made thy *Vallies* rich,
To thee shall be like streams of burning pitch:
Thy dust as Brimstone, thy Fields hard and dry
Like Iron, and the *Firmament* on high,
Like Brass, affording neither *showres* nor *dew*
In season, wasted blessing to renew.

A *leanness* shall thy *fatness* quite devour;
Thy *wheat* shall yeild thee *bran* instead of flour:
Thou shalt, when *Harvest* cometh, reap the thorn,
Or weeds and thistles where thou look'st for corn.
Robb'd shall thy *Groves* be of their pleasant *shadows*,
And of their *grass*, thy fertile flowry *Meadows*.
Sheep on thy *Downs*, or *Shepherds* on the Green,
Shall then be few, and not so often seen.
Thy Garden-Walks, and many a pleasant plot,
Shall be like places men inhabit not.
Thy *Villages* which now well peopled are,
Shall stand as if no dwellers in them were.
Thy *Cities* and thy *Palaces*, wherein
Most neatness and magnificence hath bin,
Shall heaps of *Rubbish* be, and (as in those
Demolisht *Abbies*, wherein *Daws* and *Crows*
Now make their Nests) the *bramble* and the *nettle*,
Shall in the *Halls* and *Parlours* root and settle.

Thy *Princely houses*, and the *Streets* and *Courts*
Now fill'd with men of all degrees and sorts,
Shall in them few *Inhabitants* retain,
Except a *Fisher-man*, or *Countrey-swain*;
Who, of thy pride and glory, when they see
Such *marks*, with wonderment surpriz'd shall be,
As oft they are, who deep foundations find,
Of *Towns* and *Cities* perisht out of mind,

The places where much people meetings had,
 Shall Vermine-holes, and Dens for beasts be made;
 Or haunts for *Sprights*, which do in loanly rooms
 Affright the passenger who thither comes.
 Instead of *mirth and laughter, lamentation*
 Shall there be heard; abhorred *desolation*
 Instead of *Company*; and where men heard
 Sweet *Melody*, they shall be made *affear'd*
 With *hideous cries*, and howlings of despair;
 Yea, then thy *Climate*, and well temp'ed air
 Shall lose their wholsomness for thy offences;
 Breed here infectious *Feavers, Pestilences,*
 And all *diseases*. They who up were train'd
 In ease, and with soft pleasures entertain'd,
 Leaving their idle games, and wanton dances,
 Shall practise how to handle Guns and Launces,
 And be compelled from the dear embraces
 Of friends, to end their lives in unknown places.
 Or, thy face with their own bloud to defile,
 In hope to save thee and themselves from spoile.

Thy *Beautious women* (whose pride is now more
 Then theirs, whom *Esay* mention'd heretofore)
 Shall in the stead of paintings, costly scents,
 Or glittering Gems, and curious Ornaments,
 Wear foul deformities upon their faces;
 And robb'd of all their sweet and tempting graces,
 Feel stinks, diseases, wants; and all such things,
 As loathing, to a wanton *Lover* brings.
 Thy GOD, shall for thy multiplied Vices
 Scourge thee with *Scorpions* and with *Cockatrice*s,
 Whose tails with such envenom'd stings are armed,
 As neither can be plucked out, nor charmed.
 Thou shalt not be suffic'd, when thou art fed;
 Nor suffer onely scarcity of bread.

Corporeal, but want likewise of that
Whereof each *faithful soul* desires to eat.
That curse of ravenous Beasts which GOD hath said
Upon a wicked *Nation* shall be laid,
He will inflict on thee; for although here
No *Tigers, Lyons, Wolves* or *Bears* now are,
To *Beastly-minded men* thou shalt be made
A prey, which will be (if not worse) as bad.
Instead of *Lyons, Tyrants* thou shalt breed,
Who nor of *Conscience*, nor of *Law* take heed;
But, on the weak mans portion lay their *paws*,
And make their *pleasure* to become their *Laws*.
Instead of *Tygers*, men of no compassion
(A furious and a wilful generation)
Shall fill thy *Borders*. *Thieves* and *Outlaws* vile,
Shall haunt thy *Ways*, and hunt the *Woods* for spoile.
A subtle, false, dissembling, cheating crew,
(Who will with fraudulent coz'nages pursue
The simple sort) shall here encrease their breed,
And in their *craftiness* the *Fox* exceed.
That *Hoggish Herd* which alwayes nozling are
In filth and dirt, (from whence they seldom rear
Their grunting snouts, to fix an eye on Heaven,
To look on him from whom good things are given)
Ev'n *Swinish livers*, having a desire
To feed on *drass*, to wallow in the mire,
To drink in puddles, rather than sweet springs,
To tread on, and pollute the precious't things,
Will more destructive be unto thy *Fields*,
Then all the *wild-Boars* that the *Desart* yields.
Whilst thou continuest in thy sins, thou art
Like *Egypt*, and the hardness of thy heart
Will at the last, bring down upon thee all
Those *Plagues*, which long since did on *Egypt* fall :
Blood,

Blood, Frogs and Lice, great swarms of *stinging Flies*;
 Th' infectious *Murrain* whereof Cattel dies;
Biles, Scabs & Blains, cold *Hail*, hot *Thunder-storms*,
 The *Locust*, and the *fruit-devouring Worms*;
Gross Darkness, and the *Death of them that be*
Thy darlings : All these *Plagues* will seize on thee,
 According as the Letter doth implice,
 Or, as they *Mystically* signifie.

Thy *Rivers* shall be turned into *blood*;
 Thy *Fountains* which were savoury and good,
 Grow nasty, and shall in thy *Nostrils* stink;
 Thy *Children* shall but little eat or drink,
 Until a portion of their *blood* it cost,
 Or, every drop in hazard to be lost.
 Most loathsome *Froggs*, that is, men of impure
 Of base condition, of birth as obscure
 As *Frogs* that are in *Fens and Ditches* bred,
 Shall with a *Clownish rudeness* overspread
 Each pleasant place, thy fairest rooms possess,
 And make unwholsome by their *sluttishness*,
 Thy *Kneading-troughs*, thy *Ovens* and thy *Meat*,
 Whereof thy *Children* most desire to eat :
 Yea, this *Brood* shall presume to croak and sing
 Within the *Privy-Chambers* of thy *King* ;
 There exercising their harsh-sounding throats,
 With ill-composed and unpleasing notes,
 To wit, *Vain boasts, revilings, ribaldries* ,
Lyes, curses, and ungodly *blasphemies*.

The *Land* shall breed a loathsome *Generation*,
 Unworthy either of the *Reputation*
 Or *Name of men* ; for they as *Lice* shall feed
 Upon that *Body* whence they did proceed.
 Here shall moreover, divers baneful *Flies*
 Ingend'red be in thy prosperities.

The

The *Flesh-fly* shall thy pamp' red flesh corrupt;
Musketoos, honest Lab'ers interrupt;
The lazy and unprofitable *Drones*,
The *Wasps*, the *Hornet*, and such angry ones
As do them represent, whose *buzzing tongues*,
And *stings* are active to their neighbours wrongs:
The *Butterflies* will vex thee too; ev'n they
Who do in idle flutterings wait away
Their precious time, and their Estates consume
On gaudy Clothes, till beggars they become.
As *Beasts* destroyed by the Murrain be,
So they who are of *Beastly life* in thee,
By lewd example shall infect each other,
And, in their foul diseases rot together.
Men shall grow *over-hot*, or *over-cold*,
And very few an equal temper hold;
But like *tempestuous Exhalations*, will
Thy Borders with a thousand mischiefs fill.
The *Locust* also, and the *Palmer-worms*
Shall prey on what escapeth from the *Storms*;
Ev'n those destructive *Locusts* too, which from
The *bottomless infernal pit* did come.

Then shall a *darkness* follow, much more black
Then when the Sun and Moon-light thou dost lack;
For *grossest ignorance* o'reshadowing all,
Shall with so thick a Fog upon thee fall,
That thou a *blackish Nation* wilt be made:
Still stumbling on in a deluding shade;
Distrusting *Friends*, the way to safety shewing,
Most trusting *Foes*, who labour thy undoing;
And, shalt be daily vext with doubts and fears,
Like him that *Outcries* in *dark places* hears.
Yet, then his hand, GOD shall not from the turn,
Till he hath also smote thine *Eldest Son*;

That

That is, until he hath removed quite
Those in whom now thou takest most delight,
And filled every house throughout the Nation,
With Deaths unlooked for, and lamentation.

Such will be thy confusions, and thy shame,
That when the neighbouring Kingdoms hear the same,
Their ears will tingle; for when that hour comes
In which GOD shall inflict deserved Dooms,
It will be then a day of gloominess,
Sad, dreadful, and exceeding comfortless;
For then will thy beloved vanities,
Thy Gold and Silver *Idol-Deities*,
With all those *Reeds* on which thou hast depended,
Deceive thy trust, and leave thee unbefriended.

Thy *Kings*, thy *Priests*, and *Prophets* then shall
And peradventure, formally return (mourn,
To him who would have saved them; but, they
Who will not hearken to him whilst they may,
Shall cry unheeded; for, he will despise
Their vows, their prayers, and their sacrifice.
A Sea of troubles will thy hopes up swallow,
As wave on wave, Plague upon Plague shall follow;
And every thing that was a blessing to thee,
Shall to a Curse be turn'd, which may undo thee.
Thy *King*, who as a Father should have been,
And by whom Peace should be preserved in
Thy *Sea-girt limits*, shall not much befriend thee,
Nor then in thy *professed Faith* defend thee.
Thou hast at present, goodly hopes of him
Who lately did put on thy *Diadem*;
But know, that until thou reformed art,
Thou shalt in his Deservings have no part:
His Princely Vertues to his own avail
May prove, but they to profit thee shall fail.

His

His *Clemency* shall seem to thee severe,
 His greatest favours injuries appear ;
 And when thy sins are fully ripe in thee,
 Thy *King* and *People* both alike shall be.

Thou shalt have *Babes* to be thy *Kings*, yea worse,
 Those *Tyrants* who by cruelty and force,
 Of all their ancient *Liberties* will quite
 Bereave their *Subjects*. They shall then delight
 In their oppressing them ; yet they who are
 By them enslav'd, shall murmur, and not dare
 To stir against them. By degrees they shall
 Deprive them of their *Priviledges* all,
 And force them (as in other Lands this day)
 For their own meat, and their own drink to pay.

—————To such intents
 Their *Nobles* will become their Instruments,
 For men reputed of the noblest *Races*,
 Will be expos'd gradatim to disgraces,
 Dispoil'd of pow'r, and in their stead arise
 A *Brood* advanced by *Impieties*,
 By *flat'ry*, and by *brib'ry*, and by that
 Which men of noble principles do hate.
 Without desert (from beggarly possessions,
 And *stemples* obscure) they shall by their ambitions
 Mount *Seats of Justice*, and those *Titles* wear
 Which honor'd most in those Dominions are.
 And having gain'd these *heights* hope to make strong
Oppressive Grandure, by encreasing wrong.
 For, themselves, these will unto those unite,
 Who to such *Dignities* pretend most right,
 (With no less ill-deserving) and by such,
Destruction will be hastned forward much :
 For these will *Kings* abuse, with tales and lies,
 With feigned love, and servile flatteries;

Persuading them, that they may justly make
 Their *Will their Law*, and at their pleasure take
 (As warranted by their *Prerogatives*)
 Their *Subjects goods*, their *persons* and *their lives*;
 And instrumental these will then become,
 In practising to raise by some and some,
 Their *Monarchies to Tyrannies*; yea, shall
 Abuse *Religion*, *Honesty*, and all:
 And shall to compass their Designs, devise
 What ever may effect them, *Truth* or *Lies*:
 Those *grave deportments* which do best besit
 The *Majesty of States*, they shall omit:
 Fawn or dissemble, threaten, rail or storm,
 When they pretend *Abuses* to reform:
 And, in those *High Courts* wherein sober, grave
 Admonishments or Censures men should have
 If they offend; they shall be taunted there,
 Or scott, or jeer'd, though innocent they are:
 For in those times (which nearer are then some
 Do yet believe) such *Rhetorick* will come
 In practice; and *Law*, *Equity* and *Reason*,
 For their defence be pleaded out of season.
Folly will then seem *Wisdom*, and go nigh
 To bring contempt on all *Authority*.
 The *Council-Table* shall a snare be made;
 They against whom no just complaints they had,
 At first Convention shall be urg'd to say
 Such words, perhaps, ere they depart away,
 As will expose their *Prudence* unto blame,
 And make them guilty seem, who guiltless came.
 All that which from the *People* they can tear,
 Exact or borrow, shall be (as it were)
 A *lawful Prize*, and taken from a *Foe*;
 I ew shall make conscience what they say or do,
 Injurious

Injurious to another, so it may
 Fulfil their *Lustings* for the present day.
 But to accomplish it, they will endeavour,
 Although they know it will undo for ever
 Their own Posterity, and still persist
 In what will ruine their *self-Interest*.
 This, will by darkning their Intelligence,
 Bring them to such a *Reprobated sence*,
 And blind them so, that when an *Ax* shall be
 Seen hewing at the Root of their own tree
 By their own handy stroaks, they shall not grieve
 For their approaching downfal; or believe
 Their fall approaching (to assume that heed
 Which may prevent it) till they fall indeed.

Thy *Princes*, *BRITAN*, in those dayes will be
 Like *roaring Lyons*, making prey of thee.
 GOD shall deliver thee into their hands,
 And they shall act their pleasure in these Lands.
 Thy *Kings*, as now thou wallowest in excesse;
 Shall take delight in *Drink* and *Wantonness*.
 They, who reputed are thy *Noble ones*,
 Shall to the very marrow gnaw thy bones.
 Thy *Lawyers* wilfully pervert thy *Laws*;
 They to the ruine of the *Common cause*,
 Shall misinterpret them, in hope of Grace
 From them, who may dispoile them of their place.
 That, whereunto they are obliged both
 By their professed *Calling*, and their *Oath*,
 They shall to put in execution fear,
 And leave them helpless, who oppressed are.
 Thy *Prelates* in the publick spoils will share.
 Thy *Priests*, in manners, as prophane appear
 As the prophaneest; and their *Prophecies*
 And *Preachings*, mixt with Heresies and Lies.

The *truths* they speak, shall spoken be in vain;
 So little *knowledg* shall with them remain,
 That they shall cause the means of *Saving-grace*
 To be remov'd unto another place.

Mark, BRITAN, what I have yet more to say,
 And do not slightly pass my words away;
 But be assured, that when GOD begins
 To bring those Judgments on thee for thy sins,
 Which do portend a total overthrow,
 Thy *Prophets* and thy *Priests* will slyly sow
 The seeds of that *dissention* and *sedition*,
 Which time will ripen for thy sad perdition.
 They who in former times were of thy *Peace*
 The blessed Instruments, will then encrease
 Thy sorrows; and as when of old the *Jews*
 Their truth-presaging *Prophets* did abuse,
 GOD suffered *Impostors* in his Name
 To preach those falsehoods which at last became
 To them destructive: So, if thou go on
 To make a scorn (as thou hast often done)
 Of those who seek thy *welfare*, he will send
False Prophets, who thy ruine shall intend;
 Say nothing but what thou wouldst have them say,
 To lull thee fast asleep in thine own way.
 If any *brain-sick-fellow* (whom the *Devil*
 Inspireth) shall to thee intend what's evil,
 And (heeding what thou art inclin'd unto)
 Perswades to that which may at last undo
 Both *Prince* and *People*; thou shalt like and follow
 His Counsels; thou that cover'd hook shalt swallow
 Which will destroy both; and thine ignorance
 For those disservices, will him advance:
 Whereas, if he who truly seeks thy Weal,
 Inspir'd with truth, and with a sober Zeal,

Shall

Shall tell thee what concerns thy real good,
That *Messenger* shall stiffly be withstood;
That *Seer* shall be charged not to see;
His *Message* shall displease, and slighted be;
Instead of good respect, he shall be sure
A *Prison*, or worse usage to endure ;
To death, perhaps, condemned with disgrace
Among disturbers of the *Common-Peace*.

But not unless the *Priests* thereto consent;
For, in those dayes but few men innocent
Shall suffer in that mode by ought wherein
Thy *Clergy* hath not some way active been.
If ever in thy *Fields* (which GOD forbid)
The blood of thine own *Children* shall be shed
By *Civil Discord*, they shall blow the flame,
Which will encrease thy sorrow, and thy shame.
And thus it shall be kindled, when the times
Are nigh at worst, and thy loud-crying *Crimes*
Almost full ripe, the *Devil* shall begin
To bring strange *Crotchets* and *Opinions* in
Among thy *Teachers*, which will breed *dis-union*,
And interrupt the *visible Communion*
Of thy establisht *Churches*. In the stead
Of *zealous Pastors*, who their Flocks did feed,
There shall arise within thee, by degrees,
A *Clergy*, that will more desire to freeze
Then feed their *Flocks*. A *Clergy* it shall be
Divided in it self; and they shall thee
Divide among them into several *Factions*,
Which will both rend, and fill thee with distractions.
All of those, in appearance, will pretend
GOD's glory, and to have one pious end;
But under colour of sincere *Devotion*,
Their chief aim will be temporal promotion ;

Which

Which, will among themselves Dissentions make,
 Wherein all sorts of people shall partake,
 As to the *Persons*, or the *Cause* they stand
 Inclined, through every quarter of the Land :
 One part of these, will for *Preferment* strive,
 By raising up the King's *Prerogative*
 Above it self : They shall perswade Him to
 More then by *Law* or *Conscience* he may do ;
 And say, GOD warrants it : His Righteous *Laws*
 They shall pervert, to justify their *Cause*.
 With blushless impudency, they shall dare
 Ascribe to *Monarchs*, things which proper are
 To none but *Christ* : and mix their flatteries
 With such like Attributes and Blasphemies,
 As *Heathens* did, to make their *Kings* believe,
 That whomsoever they oppress and grieve,
 They do no wrong ; and that one though oppressed
 Should seek by their own *Laws* to be redressed.
 Such *Counsel* shall thy foolish *Kings* provoke
 To cast upon thee *Rheboam's* yolk ;
 And they, not caring, or not taking heed,
 How ill, that misadvised King did speed ;
 Shall multiply the causes of distraction !
 And then, shall of those *Priests*, the other Faction
 Bestir themselves. They will in outward shows,
 Those whom I last have mentioned, oppose ;
 But, in their aimes agree, with lowly zeal,
 An envious pride of heart, they shall conceal.
 And, as the former to the King will teach
 Meer *Tyranny* ; so shall the other preach
Rebellion to the *People* ; and then strain
 The *Word* of God, *Sedition* to maintain.
 Oh ! therefore be thou watchful ; and when here
 Those *Lambs* with *Dragons* *Voices*, do appear,

Repent

Repent thy sins, or take it for a token
 That such a Bulwark of thy *Peace* is broken,
 As if it be not soon repaired, all
 The grandure of thy *Glory* down will fall.
 Beware then of those *Prophets* who will strive
 Betwixt thy *Prince* and *People* to contrive
 A *Breach*; and what event soever come,
 Thy due *Alléiance* never start thou from.
 For (their *Oppressions* though we may withstand
 By pleading *Laws* or *Customes*) not a hand
 Must move against him, but the hand of *GOD*,
 Who makes the *King* a *Bulwark*, or a *Rod*,
 As pleaseth him. Oh take therefore good heed
 Ye *Subjects*, and ye *Kings*, what may succeed
 By those *Impostors*, of the last, beware
 Ye *Subjects*, for their *Counsels* wicked are;
 And, though they promise *Liberty* and *Peace*,
 Your *Thralldom* and your troubles they encrease.
 Shun oh ye *Kings*, the first; for they advise
 What will your *Crowns* and *Honours* prejudice.
 When you suppose their *Prophecies* befriend you,
 They shall but unto *Ramoth Gilead* send you,
 Where you shall perish; and poor *Micha's* word,
 Though disesteem'd, more safety will afford.

This *Author* hath been censured, as having deviated from his *Principle* expressed in the last foregoing *Caveat*, when (upon their *Command*) he took up Arms with the *Long-Parliament*: But, he declared by the *Motto* in his *Cornet*, *Pro lege, Rege grege*, that he purposed nothing contrary thereunto, or against the *King*; and he is also sufficiently vindicated from that *aspection*, by what he long since published to justify both his *actions* and *intentions* under that *Power*, which was call'd and authorized both
 by

by King and people, to regulate and settle their joint and distinct Interests.

After that, and the rest of the foregoing *Precautions* and *Predictions*, the said *Author* having considered this *Nation*, and how it had parallel'd the *Jews* heretofore, he proceeded to declare what would follow thereupon, if they parallel'd them also in their final obstinacy, fol. 269. p. 2.

What here is mentioned, if thou shalt heed,
Oh *BRITAN*, in those times that will succeed,
It may prevent much loss, and make thee shun
Those mischiefs, whereby *Kingdoms* are undone.
But, to thy other sins, if thou shalt add
Rebellion, as false *Prophets* will perswade
When that time comes, wherein thou likewise shalt
In thy profession, as to *GOD-ward*, halt;
Then will thy *King* and *People* scourge each other,
For their offences, till both fall together,
By weakning of their Pow'r, and making way
To their ends, who expect that fatal day.
Then shall *disorder* every where abound,
Justice or *Piety* be rarely found.
Each man shall to his neighbour be a thorn,
By whom he shall be either scratcht or torn.
Thy *Princes* will to little condescend,
Save for accomplishing their own self-end,
Either in multiplying of their *Treasures*,
Or satiating of their fleshly pleasures.
Few *Causes* will without a bribe be tri'de,
Few *Friends* will in each other dare confide.
The *Parents* and their *Children* shall despise,
Hate or neglect each other. *She* that lies
Within her *Husbands* bosome, shall betray him;
They who the *People* should protect, shall slay them.

Old

Old Age shall honor'd be by few or none;
The *Poor* shall by the *rich* be trod upon;
Such *Insolencies*, almost, every where,
Shall acted be, that *good* and *bad* shall fear
In thee to dwell; and *wise men* to assume
The *Magistracy*, when that time is come,

GOD, shall then call, and whistle from afar
Those hither, who the most malicious are
Of all thine *Adversaries*; they shall from
Their dwellings, like a whirlwind, on thee come;
Sharp shall their Arrows be, and strong their Bow:
To thee their faces will as dreadful show,
As roaring Lyons: They on thee like thunder
Shall furiously break in, and tread thee under
Their Iron feet. They shall devour thy *bread*,
And with thy *Flocks* both clothed be, and fed.
Their *Children* they shall carry from their own,
To *Countries* which their Fathers have not known:
And thither shall such *mischiefs* them pursue,
That they who seek the *Pit-fall* to eschue,
Shall in a snare be taken: them who shall
Escape the *Sword*, a *Serpent* in the wall
Shall sting to death; and tho they have the hap
To shun a hundred Plagues, they shall not scape;
But with new dangers be still chas't about,
Until they shall be wholly rooted out,

The *Plow-man* shall be then afraid to sow;
Artificers their labour shall forgo.
The *Merchant-man* shall cross the Seas no more,
Except to flye hence to another shore.

The *stoutest heart* shall fear; the *wisest* then
Shall know themselves to be but foolish men;
And they who built and planted by oppression,
Shall leave their gettings to their Foes possession:

And yet GOD will chastise thee seven times more,
 With seven times greater Plagues then heretofore.
 For thy *Allies* their Friendship shall withdraw;
 They, who of thy *Grandure* stood in aw,
 Shall say in scorn, *Is this the Valiant Nation*
Which had throughout the World such Reputation
By Victories on Land? Alas! are these
The men, who were once Master of the Seas,
And grew so powerful? yea, that petty Nation
 Which seem'd scarce worthy of thine indignation,
 Shal slight thee too, and all thy former fame
 Will be forgot, or mention'd to thy shame. (*Jews,*

Mark how GOD's *Plagues* were doubled on thee
 When they his mild corrections did abuse.

Mark what at last upon their Land was sent,
 And look thou for the self-same punishment,
 Lest he in anger unto us protest,
 That we shall never come into his rest.
 For we have followed them in all their sin;
 Such, and so many have our Warnings been;
 And, if GOD still prolong not his compassion,
 To us belong the self-same *Desolation*.
 Then, we shall be to them that heretofore
 By joining *house to house*, expel'd the po're;
 And *Field* have unto *Field* incorporated,
 Till Villages were nigh depopulated.
 For, desolate their *dwellings* will be made,
 The *Lord* shall in their bowels sheath his blade;
 And, they who have by their oppressive wiles
 Erected *Palaces*, and costly piles,
 Shall see the stones and timbers in the wall
 Arise against them, and for vengeance call.

Then we shall be to them that early rise
 To eat and drink, to play and wantonise,

Still adding sin to sin: They the distress
Shall feel of *hunger, thirst* and *nakedness*;
And be the servile slaves of them that are
Their Foes, as to their *lusts* they captives were.
Then wo to them who *darkness* more have lov'd
Then *light*, and wholsom counsel disapprov'd:
For, they shall wander in a crooked path
Which neither light, nor end, nor comfort hath.
Then, wo to them who have corrupted bin,
To justify the *wicked* in their sin,
Or, for a bribe the *Righteous* to condemn:
For, as the Chaff, a Wind shall scatter them;
Their bodies on the Dunghil shall be cast,
Their finest flow're be dust, their substance wast,
And all the *gawdy Titles* they have worn,
Shall but augment their sorrow, shame and scorn.

Then wo to them, who (when they were afraid
Of mischiefs threatned) sought unlawful aid,
Or, setting GOD's protection quite aside,
On their own strength and wisdom have reli'de.
For, he their foolish hopes will bring to nought,
Till all they fear, shall be upon them brought;
And, all their wit and *strength* shall not suffice
To heave that burthen off, which on them lies.
Because *fore-warnings* they do neither heed
Or mind, till GOD to execution doth proceed;
And of his *long-forbearance* careless are,
Till in *consuming fire* he shall appear.

Yet we still set far off the *evil day*,
In *dull security* we pass away
Our *precious time*, and with vain hopes and toys
Build up a *trust* which every puff destroyes:
And therefore still when *healing* is expected,
New and unlook'd for troubles are effected.

We wisht for *Parliaments*, and them we made
 Our GOD; for all the hopes that many had,
 The mischiefs which we feared to prevent,
 Was by the wisdom of a *Parliament*.
 Well, *Parliaments* we had, and what in being
 Succeeded hath, but greater disagreeing,
 With greater *Grievances* then heretofore?
 And reason good; for we depended more
 On *second causes*, then on him who sends
 What to our evil, or well-being tends.
 Know then, that should our *Parliaments* agree
 According to our wish, should our *Kings* be
 So gracious, as to condescend to all
 Which to the *Publike Weal* propose they shall:
 Ev'n that *Agreement*, till our *sins* we leave,
 Shall make us but *secure*, and help to weave
 A *Snare*, by whose fine threads we shall be caught,
 Before we see the mischiefs thereby wrought;
 Whilst for *self-Interests* we chiefly seek,
 By *Parliaments*, the *King* shall do the like,
 Yea, till in mutual Aides we can agree,
 And, our endeavours unfeigned be,
 In labouring for a *Christian Reformation*,
 Each *meeting* shall beget a new vexation.

In the 191 folio, and in many following leaves, the
Prevarications of persons in several other Callings,
 having been mentioned, the *Author* added this,
 and much more, in relation to the *Clergy*.

Nor came the *Priests* and *Prophets* much behind
 The worst of these, but passe them in some kind;
 For, though a learned *Clergy* now thou hast,
 And *knowledge* is here lately much encreast;
 Though

Though likewise, I believe thou hast in thee
Some *Pastors*, from a just reproof as free
As any *Nation* hath; yet thou hast more
Prevaricators now, then heretofore.

A *heap of Teachers* entertain'd thou hast,
Resembling *empty vapours*, or a blast
That breaths no comfort. What GOD never meant
They preach for *Truth*, and run e're they are sent.
The *Peoples* wounds they salve with pleasing speech;
When there's no peace at all, of peace they preach;
Or, like *Dumb Dogs* consume their time in sleep,
And some so *look*, that they affright the *sheep*.
Like hungry *Curres* they alwayes gormundize,
Yet never can their appetite suffice.

In *bribing*, and in hunting for *Promotion*
More is their *zeal*, and much more their *Devotion*,
Then to discharge their *Duty*. They delight
In *flat'ries*, and the fawningst *Parasite*
In all the Courts of *Europe*, cannot prate
More heath'nishly, or more insinuate
Then some of these, &c. —————

There is no *Avarice* that theirs exceeds;
No *Malice* that a Mischief sooner breeds.
No *Pride* so surly as the *Clergy-pride*,
Except among the *Beggars* when they cri'de.
They, who a few years past would half have broke
Their Kindred to have purchas'd them a Cloke,
And in poor thred-bare Cassocks came to preach
Beneath an *Under-Curate*, and to teach
The Children of a *Farmer* for their meat,
And, scarcely worthy seem'd so much to get:
Ev'n some of these have so well acted out
Their parts, of seeming honestly-devout;

And,

And have so quaintly humoured and pleased
 The *present times*, that they at last have seized
 On what they aim'd at, and now over-pe're
 Their Heads, by whom they first advanced were.
 And if you mark, how proudly now they bear
 Their lofty heads, how insolent they are;
 How barb'rously ingrateful unto those
 By whom they from the Dunghil first arose;
 How they at least neglect, if not contemn
 Their old Friends, and betwixt themselves & them,
 What distances they set, unto their Kin
 How harsh, and how ill-natur'd they have been,
 How peevish they are grown, and how unquiet;
 How choice in their *Attendance*, and their *Diet*;
 If it were well observed with what strain
 Of Pride and I ostiness they entertain
 Their *Brethren of the Clergy*, when they are
 By their own *Officers* call'd to appear
 Before their *Lordships*; with what *Pope-like* phrase
 They seek to terrifie, and to amaze
 Their humble *Suppliants*; how on those they play,
 Who their *Superiors* were the other day.
 Were these things heeded, with some passages,
 Which name I could, as worthy heed as these:
 A man would hardly think that these had been
 Those *Priests* whom they a while before had seen
 So beggarly, and so expos'd to scorn,
 But, that they had at least been *Prelates born*,
 Few could have else thought that these men are they
 Who lately did so bitterly inveigh
 Against that *Pride Episcopall*, &c.

O Lord! awaken those, I humbly pray,
 Whom Pride and Vanity hath led away.

And,

And, oh ye *House of Levi* ! warning take ye,
Lest GOD, for times to come, examples make ye;
As he that *Clergy* an example made,
Whose monstrous Pride, the Age foregoing had
So great a fall. The *Priests* and *Prophets* sin
Was signal in the bringing those *Plagues* in
Which overwhelm'd the *Jewish Commonwealth* :
And, if what's threatned GOD shall not repeal,
Your sins will be the means to hasten hither
That *Vengeance* which will ruine all together, &c.

Excuse me worthy *Prelates*, &c.

By these last words, whereby the *Author* begins to plead an excuse for his sharp Reproofs, it appears he at that time thought not *Prelacy* to have produced such evil *Consequents* as he now doth; for he did not then (nor now) conceive that *Episcopacy* gives to the *Ministers* of the *Gospel* a precedence of *Dignity* before their fellow-*Commissioners*, but a preheminance of *Order* onely : And of that Judgment he believes those *Bishops* to have been, who underwent *Martyrdom* for Conscience sake, and owned the title of a *Prelate* in no other sense then he intended it, who thinks the Office of a *Bishop* to be a *Divine Institution*, being regulated, and the persons qualified according to *St. Paul's* Character, 1 *Tim.* 3. This *Precaution* being added, the Abreviation of his *Remembrances* thus goes on.

Believe it, *BRITAN*, howsoever some
(Who should forewarn thee of what is to come)
Endeavour to perswade thee that thou hast
A *hopeful time*, and that the worst is past ;

I will be bold to tell thee thou hast nigh
Out-worn GOD's patience by impiety.

But, what am I, that me thou shouldst believe,
And unto my *Predictions* credit give?
It may be, this adulterous generation,
Expects *fore-tokens* of their *Desolation*;
And therefore, I will give them *signes* of that
Which they are now almost arrived at:
Not *Signes* so dubious as were some of old,
Whereby the *Jews* *Destruction* was foretold;
But *Signes* as evident as are the day,
For what the *Prophets* heretofore did say,
Jerusalem's destruction did foreshew,
They spake to every *State* that should ensue.
And that they nought of *her*, or to *her* spake,
For hers alone, but also for thy sake.

In the 269th folio of the *Remembrancer*, and in
the Eight pages next following it, are *Ten Signs* re-
corded, grounded upon the *holy Prophets*, as presig-
nifying the desolation of those *Kingdoms* and *Re-
publicks*, which should parallel the *Jewish* *Prevari-
cations*; to the perusal whereof, the *Reader* is refer-
red, to shorten this *Collection*, and onely the last of
these *Ten Signs* is here inserted.

The last *black Sign* that I will now repeat,
Which doth to *Kingdoms* desolation threat.
Is when the hand of GOD Almighty brings
A *People* unto bondage to their *Kings*.
I say, when their own *King* shall take delight,
Those whom he should protect, to rob and smite.
When they who feed the *Flock*, the sheep shall kill,
Devour them, and suppose they do not ill.

When

When th is, h *Britan*, shall befall to thee,
 An evident *Prognostick* it will be
 Of GOD's displeasure; and a certain token
 Thou by a *Foreign Pow'r* shalt be broken,
 Or, by thine own *divided strength* at home,
 Which will the more destructive Plague become.

GOD will (unless we shall repent) perchance,
 In time to come, a *Shepherd* here advance,
 Who shall not plead for what his *young men* say
 Is his; but, take the same perforce away.
 An *Idol-shepherd*, who shall neither care
 To find or seek out those who straying are;
 Nor feed the *Lambs*, nor cure what hath a wound,
 Or cherish those who firm to him are found:
 But take the *Fatlings*, rob them of their fleeces;
 Devour their flesh, and break their bones in peeces.

I might more *Signs* then these, enumerate,
 To shew GOD's patience is nigh out of date.
 But, these are *Signs* enough, and so apparent,
 That twenty more will give no better warrant
 Of what will come; yet, if these false appear,
 That's one *Sign* more of what is drawing near.
 Be watchful therefore, whilst it is to day,
 And let no good occasion slip away. (them
 Now rent your hearts, ye *Britans*, wash and rinse
 From all corruptions, from all evil cleanse them:
 Go offer up the pleasing Sacrifice
 Of *Righteousness*: From folly turn your eyes;
 Seek *Peace*, and follow it with strict pursuit,
 Relieve the *needy*, *Justice* execute;
 Refresh the *weary*, right the *fatherless*,
 The *strangers* and the *widows* wants redress.

H

Give

Give praise to GOD for all; with lowly faith
 On him depend; mind what the Spirit saith.
 Remember what a price your Ransome cost,
 And now redeem the time that hath been lost.

It was feigned, That a Shepherd said of what had
 misbefallen to him, *Sape nobis malum hoc pradixit
 ab Ilice Cornix,*

A Raven from a Holly tree
 Did oft presage this ill to me.

And perhaps, upon the perusal of this Review,
 this Author will be likened to those Ravens, which
 presage nothing but mischief; for, some have said
 already, That he hath been a troubler of the people;
 and as Ahab said Micah did of him, That he pre-
 dicted no good to this Nation; but it is apparent-
 ly false; for he hath conditionally presaged as well
Mercies as *Judgments*, intermixing *Threatnings* and
Promises fore-declared by his *Prophets*, to prevent
 what is pronounced against wilful Transgressors;
 seasoning all his *Predictions* with many *Precautions*
 and *Exhortations*, to beget and confirm true Faith
 and *Penitence*; such as these next following.

Return, return thou, oh back-sliding Nation,
 And let thy tears prevent thy desolation.
 As yet thou maist return; for GOD's embrace
 To thee is open, if thou shalt have grace
 To give it meeting. Thy repentance may
 Prevent the future Mischiefs (which this day
 Are threatned) if so be thou shalt in time
 According to thy pow'r comply with him.

For,

For, thereupon his dreadful *Judgments* all
 Predicted here, to *Mercies* change he shall.
 I cannot say, it shall excuse thee from
 All *Chastisements*, so that no blow shall come :
 But, of thus much thou may'st assured be,
 That ev'ry *Judgment* then, which falls on thee,
 Shall be a *Mercy*; if he shall not stay
 What's threatned, now, the strokes which he doth lay
 Will fall the lighter, and produce a blessing,
 Thy future happiness much more encreasing
 Then all the great *prosperity* and *rest*
 Which hath long time together been possesst.
 Yea, *BRITAN*, if thou timely shalt reform
 Thy *manners*, it will stop the *dreadful storm*
 Appearing now, and they who triumph would
 Thy utter desolation to behold,
 Will either change their minds, or live to see
 The *Judgments* which descending are on thee,
 Remov'd to them; for, when from sin men cease,
 GOD makes their *Enemies* and *them* at peace.

Then, thou shalt have again in thy possessions,
 All *inward Graces*, and *external Blessings*;
 Thy *Herd*s in ev'ry Pasture safe shall feed,
 Thy *Soile* shall plentifully encrease thy seed:
 Thy *Flocks* good *Shepherds* shall not want, or meat,
 Clean Provender thy stalled beast shall eat.
 There shall be *Rivers* in thy *Dales*, and *Fountains*
 Upon the top of thy most barren *Mountains*,
 The *Moon* shall cast upon thee beams as bright
 As did the *Sun*; and with a sevenfold Light
 Thou shalt be blessed. He that *Raigns* in thee
 Shall neither jealous of his *People* be,
 Nor they of Him; but he by *Righteousness*
 Shall with the *Peoples Love*, the Throne possess;

And to each other, both as kind appear
As *Loving Parents* and good *Children* are.

Thy *Magistrates* with wisdom shall proceed
In all things, by them acted or decreed.

As *Rivers* are to places over dry ;
As *Harbours* when winds blow tempestuously ;

As *shadows* when we are oppress'd with heat ;

As to the hungry stomach, *wholsom meat* ;

So acceptable shall thy *Rulers* be,

When GOD shall find true *Penitence* in thee.

Thy *Priests* shall preach truth onely in thy Temples,
And make it fruitful by their *good examples*.

Christ with his *Righteousness* shall them array,

And they shall guide thy footsteps in his way ;

Thine *eyes*, which are now blinded, shall be clear ;

Thine *ears*, at present deafned, then shall hear ;

Thy *faultring tongue* speak timely truth and plain ;

Thy *heart* true understanding shall retain ;

Peace will return, no lab'ring man shall want

A blessing on what he doth sow or plant.

Thy *poorest people* shall at full be fed,

The *meek man* of no *Tyrant* stand in dread.

Thou shalt have *Grace* and *Knowledge* to avoid

What may bereave the *Mercies* yet enjoy'd.

All promis'd Blessings, GOD upon thee shall

Confer, and hear thee still when thou dost call.

These and many other *Mercies*, as well as *Judgments*, were conditionally predicted in the said *Remembrancer*, upon several occasions ; to the perusal whereof more at large, the *Reader* is referred, this being but a *Breviate*, to make this *Generation* the more heedful thereof. To which end here shall be likewise added a part of what the *Author* expressed in the

the conclusion of that Book, touching his Resolution to discharge his duty, and depend on GOD alone for protection and supply in all straits whatsoever; which Resolution was expressed in these words, fol. 284.

So now, though not so fully as I ought,
My *Vow* is paid, and to conclusion brought
This Work, for which GOD pleas'd my life to spare,
When Thousands round about me slaughter'd were;
And live or dye, I care not, for I see
But little usefulness henceforth of me.
Yet since none knows what GOD will call him to,
I'll not say absolutely what I'll do
Or not do; though I now intend no more
To exercise my *Muse* as heretofore:
For if this profit not, I think in vain
I shall hereafter touch this string again.
If these do not prevail, I shall suppose
Words are not wanting here so much as *Blows*,
And that the filthy will be filthy still,
Till they the measure of their sins fulfill;
Or, till GOD shall, to free us from pollution,
Proceed to some unusual execution.

Fol. 285. Pag. 2.

My outward hopes have not my tongue unloos'd,
Nor can my mouth by outward fears be clos'd:
What I would do, is done, and I am eas'd,
And glad, however others will be pleas'd.
Let them who shall peruse it, *praise* or *laugh*,
Revile, or *scoff*, or *threat*, or *swear*, or *chafe*,
All's one to me, so I *within* am still,
Without me, let men make what noise they will.

For,

For, I am sure, though they my flesh confound,
 What I desire to save, shall be kept sound;
 And, likewise know, that nor the brutish rages
 Either of *this*, or of *succeeding Ages*,
 Shall root this *Poem* out; but that to all
 Ensuing times, the same continue shall,
 And be perused in this Land, as long
 As here they shall retain the *English tongue*;
 Or whilst there shall be *sinners* and *offences*,
Disorders, *Discords*, *Warrs* and *Pestilences*.
 And if our gross sins we depart not from,
 Before the day of our destruction come,
 This *Book* shall to the times ensuing show (throw.
 What *Crimes* they were that wrought our over-
 And testify to others, for their learning,
 That *Vengeance* seiz'd us not without *fore-warning*.

After the *Author's* insisting upon many other particular circumstances in the pages next following, to make his *Precautions* and *Predictions* the better heeded, he thus proceeds.

The *King* hath shown me favour. At this hour
 I do not know that living man whose Pow'r
 Or Person I envy or disaffect;
 Or whom, of any malice I suspect
 To me or mine: With me all those are friends
 Who were at odds; and to obtain my ends
 In my *Affairs*, I never had a day
 So probable as now, if I would stay
 This *Message*: And this peradventure shall
 My hopes defer, or quite destroy them all.
 Yet, is this bluntly told, that you may see
 My *hopes* were greater than my *fears* could be:

And

And that it may be known my heart disclaims
 All those *poor ends* at which some think it aims.
 Such arguments and words, therefore, as may
 Anticipate, I here before-hand say,
 Not that I think it possible by them,
 To work on those who will this *Book* condemn,
 (For 'tis not in the pow'r of Argument
 Or words, to make the wilful provident)
 It lieth not in *serious protestations*
 To nullifie malicious Combinations,
 No, nor in *Miracles*, till GOD shall please,
 Who of all hearts doth keep the Locks and Keyes.

I therefore these *Precautions* do insert
 To evidence the hardness of his heart
 Who shall be obstinate; and fore-declare
 Those things that shall be done, ere done they were,
 That men may know, when they are come to pass,
 Nought did succeed but what expected was;
 And that the better working this may have
 On those who shall GOD's *Messages* receive
 By this *Remembrancer* : for he hath sent it,
 Though I who am unworthy, do present it.
 This misadvisedly compos'd I not,
 Nor was it by a *Miracle* begot;
 To fit me for this purpose, I have thrice
Imprisonment endur'd, *Close Prison* twice :
 Much trouble on my first *Essays* ensu'd
 Through want and scandals, not a few I shrew'd;
 And being guarded by GOD's Providence,
 Was lately carried through the *Pestilence*;
 Both saw and felt what *Nature* doth abhor,
 To harden me, and to prepare me for

This

This *Message*. Therefore they who dream they shall
 With frowning looks, or big words me appale,
 Must look more grim then *Death*, more ugly far
 Then *Vizards* or the Devils Pictures are ;
 Breath stronger poyson then a *Plague-fill'd Grave*,
 And stamp, and roar, and tear, and rage, and rave
 More dreadfully, and louder then a man
 Infected with six *Pestilences* can :
 Else, I to play with terrors being born,
 Shall slight them, and laugh all their rage to scorn:
 Yet, I am naturally (and I do
 Ingenuously confess it) subject to
 Such *fears* and *passions* as make better men
 To startle from their duties now and then.
 By what is done, may troubles come upon me,
 But not performing it, had quite undone me ;
 Since I deterred by what might befall me,
 Had that neglected, whereto GOD did call me :
 For, of his *calling me* the meanes and ways
 Whereby he did my weakness thereto raise,
 Unquestionable Evidences give ;
 And they who do not, yet the same believe,
 Will think so too, perhaps, when they shall see
 Themselves assaulted with new *Plagues* to be.

This I believing, and considering
 What *hazard* that neglect therewith might bring,
 And what assurances I did possess,
 I had contracted a *grand guiltiness*
 By disobeying ; and more had therein
 Transgressed against God, then by a sin
 Against the *State*, though such *Truths* utter'd were
 As they shall most displeasing be to hear.
 What ever others think, this is my fear,

And to my Soul so terrible a thing,
The wilful disobeying that great *King*
Appears to me, that I should never sleep
In peace again, if silence I should keep:
Now therefore, neither all the *Royal Graces*
Of *Kings*, nor Gifts, nor honorable places
Shall stop my mouth; nor will I smother this,
Though *twenty Kings* had sworn to make me kiss
The Gallows for it, lest my *Conscience* should
Torment me more then all men living could:
Yea, though this did proceed from *Ignorance*
Or *Fancy*, as it will be thought perchance;
Yet, since that *Fancy* may present to me
As hideous *frights* as things that *real be*;
I'll rather hazard twenty deaths to dye,
Then to be tortur'd by my *Fantase*;
For, I had rather in a Dungeon dwell
Five years, then in my soul to feel a Hell
Five minutes; and whilst GOD and I are Friends,
I shall not care how many this offends.

Now because this *Remembrancer* was long ago imprinted, and is not easie to be gotten, the *Contents* of every *Canto*, as they were at first published, are here inserted, that the general scope thereof may be known to them who desire it.

The Contents of the first Canto.

Our *Author* first with *GOD* begins,
Describes his anger for our sins;
Of all his *Judgments* muster makes;
Declares how *Mercy* undertakes
The pleading of this *Kingdoms* Cause,
To bring *GOD's* wrath unto a pause;
And (for the *common Reader*) suites
High things, with lowly *Attributes*.

Then steps into a praiseful strain
Of *Charles* His new-beginning Reign;
Emplores, that well succeed it may,
And for His Weal makes *Mercy* pray.

He *Justice* also introduces,
Complaining on our gross abuses;
Who proveth so our sinful *Nation*
To merit utter *Desolation*,
That all *GOD's* *Plagues* had us enclos'd,
If *Mercy* had not interpos'd.
But, after pleading of the *Case*
With *Justice*, *Mercy* doth embrace;
Who (that our sins may punish't be)
To send the *Pestilence* agree;
Their other *Plagues* a while suspending,
To proye how that will work amending.

The

The Contents of the Second Canto.

Our *Muse* defends her lowly stile,
 And (having flown aside a while)
 Tells how the *Plague* first entred here,
 What Means to stay it practis'd were.
 Some vulgar *Tenents* are disputed,
 Some rectified, some refuted.
 She from the *Nature* and the *Cause*
 Of that *Disease*, conclusions draws;
 Declareth how it runs and creeps,
 And what uncertain paths it keeps;
 How long *strict Orders* useful stood,
 The fruit of *Christian Neighbourhood*:
 And many other things betwixt
 These mentioned, are intermixt.

She sheweth (also) means assured,
 By which this *Mischief* may be cured:
 How to apply that means, how those
 Who use it, should themselves compose:
 How violent the *Plague* did grow;
 Who from it might, or might not go:
 How much 'twas feared, how men fled;
 How ill, in flying, many sped:
 And lastly, (as occasion moves)
 She grieves, she counsels, and reproveth.

The Contents of the Third Canto.

The *House of Mourning*, which most fear,
 (And flye so much) is praised here.
 It shews, that outward *Joyes* and *Care*,
 Nor meerly good, nor evil are,

But things indifferent, which the *wise*
Nor over-praise, nor under-prise.

The strife within our *Authors* brest
About his *stay*, is next exprest.
Then doth it orderly recite
What *Reason* argu'd for his flight ;
What *Faith* alledged to reprove
The Motives urging his remove :
What *Arms* for him she did prepare
To hide the shock of *Death* and *Fear*.
What proof she to his *Conscience* made,
That he a *lawful calling* had,
In midst of this great *Plague* to tarry,
By *Warrant extraordinary*.
What, thereupon he did conclude ,
What *Joy* and *Confidence* ensu'de :
How much this Favour he doth prize
Above Earths glorious'st Vanities :
How he his time desires to spend,
And so this *Canto* hath an end.

The Contents of the Fourth Canto.

Our *Muse* in the Fourth *Canto* writes
Of Melancholly thoughts and sights :
What *Changes* were in ev'ry place,
What *Ruines* in a little space :
How *Trades*, and how *Provisions* fail'd,
How *Sorrow* thriv'd, how *Death* prevail'd ;
And how in triumph he did ride,
With all his *Horrors* by his side.
To *London* then she doth declare
How suiting her *afflictions* were

To former *Sins*; what good and bad
Effects this *Plague* produced had :
What Friendly *Champions*, and what *Foes*
For us did fight, or us oppose :
And how the greatest *Plague* of all
On poor *Artificers* did fall.

Then from the *Fields* new grief she takes,
And useful *Meditations* makes :
Relates how slowly *Vengeance* came,
How GOD forewarn'd us of the same :
What other *Plagues* to this were joined :
And here and there are interlined
Upbraidings, *Warnings*, *Exhortations*,
And pertinent *Expostulations*.

The Contents of the Fifth Canto.

The *Author* justifies again
His *Method*, and his lowly strain.
Next, having formerly made known
The common *Fears*, he tells his own :
Shews with what thoughts he was diseased,
When first the *Plague* his Lodging seized :
Of what GOD's *Justice* him accused :
Upon what doubts or hopes he mused :
On what, and how he did resolve,
And who from *Death* did him absolve.

The *Plagues* encrease he then expresseth;
The *Mercies* of the LORD confesseth :
Emplores that he himself may never
Forget them, but be thankful ever :
Then mounting *Contemplations* wings,
Ascends to high and useful things.

From thence his *Muse* is called down,
 To make Great *Britan's* errors known;
 Wherein, he doth confess a failing;
 And (his infirmities bewailing)
 Is fitted and resolv'd anew,
 His purpos'd *Message* to pursue:
 And, having first anticipated,
 His *Arrant* is in part related.

The Contents of the Sixth Canto.

The *Poet* (weighing well his *Warrant*)
 Goes on with his enjoined *Arrant*:
 Impartially he doth relate
 This *Islands* good and bad estate:
 What several sins in her have place;
 How gross they are, how they encrease
 He also tells, and then he shews
 That nor the *Gentiles* nor the *Jews*
 Were check'd or plagu'd for any Crimes,
 Which are not reigning in these times.

Next that, he boldly doth approve
 The course in which our *Nobles* move:
 Derides their folly, blames their sin,
 And warns what danger they are in.

Our *Gentry* then he reprehends,
 Their foolish humours discommends:
 And (having brought them to their sights)
 Upon the guilty *Clergy* lights:
 On *Lawyers* that abuse the *Laws*,
 On *Officers*, and on the Cause
 Of most *Corruptions*: Last of all
 On some *Enormities* doth fall,

Which

Which are in *Court* and *City* found;
And runs this *Canto* there on ground.

The Contents of the Seventh Canto.

First, of *himself* he somewhat speaks :
Then of the *Cities* Errors makes
A larger *Scrawl* ; and therewithal
Inserts Abuses general.

He shews, by reason of her sin,
What Misery this Land is in :
What ill success, and what dishonor
Is, for her follies, come upon her
In Foreign parts, and here at home :
How senseless also, she's become.
What several ways against this *Land*,
GOD hath of late stretcht out his hand :
And how the blame of what's amiss,
From one to th' other shifted is.

By many *Symptomes* he declares
How sick this *Commonweal* appears.
Disputes the late Distemper bred
Betwixt the *Body* and the *Head* ,
And layes the blame where lye it should;
Yet therein proves not over-bold.

Then aims he at some imperfections,
In *Burgeses*, and their *Elections*;
And, briefly pointeth at the way
By which our Cure effect we may.

The Contents of the Eighth Canto.

Our *Poet* having toucht again
What frailties in himself remain ;

Declare

Declares, that many *Plagues* do steal
As well on *Church* as *Commonweal* :
Relates what *Crotchets* do possess
Some who *Righteousness* profess :
What noisome *Plants*, what *Tares* and *Weeds*
Are sprung to choak the *holy Seeds* :
What feigned *Zeal* and affectation
Hath fool'd this *formal Generation* :
And, how from some, great scandal grows,
Who bear the *Keys* that bind and loose.

Next, he delivereth *Predictions*
Of *Plagues*, of *Sorrows* and *Afflictions*,
Which on this *Island* will descend,
Unless our manners we amend.
And whensoever *Civil Farres*,
Or mischiefs, by the rage of *Warres*
Oppress this *Realm*, his *Muse* doth show
Who shall occasion it, and how.
Which fearful *Judgment* to prevent,
He calls upon her to repent ;
By *ten apparent Signs* hath shown
GOD's *Patience* nigh expir'd is grown.
Then for the *Publick Weal* he prays,
Then for *himself*; and there he staves.

*The Authors Motto, Nec Habeo, nec Careo,
nec Curo, Imp. 1618.*

THE said *Motto*, and the *Descant* thereupon, may perhaps appear to some *Readers* a careless, rather than a serious Composure, because expressed in an unusual and extravagant *strain*. Nevertheless, it hints many good Principles, which the *Author* thought would be best insinuated in that *Mode*; and he was not therein deceived; for, it then so well pleased, that about thirty thousand Copies thereof were imprinted and published within a few months. The Book is so common, that no more shall be here mentioned, but a few lines out of the *Descant* upon the last *Word*, wherein is a passage relating to an over-curious *Inquisitiveness* after *Things to come*; and wherein is implicitly wrapt up a *Prediction*, which may be considerable. The words are these:

I do not care to be inquisitive,
How many months or weeks I have to live:
For, 'tis unlikely I shall better grow
When I my self to be long-liv'd, do know,
If I dare act a wickedness, and yet
Know I may dye whilst I am doing it.
Let them whose brains are crackt with that Disease,
Depend upon their *Ephimerides*,
Search *Constellations*, and themselves apply
To find the *Fate* of their *Nativity*;
I'll seek within me, and if there I find
The *Stars*, that should illuminate my mind,

Rise far, and seasonably me direct
 Through my Life's Progress by a good *Aspect*;
 And, in *Conjunction*, shall discover there
 True *Piety*, and *Honesty* sincere
 Confirm'd in me (by those Influences
 Which *Grace* to regulate our course dispences)
 I'll fear no Fortunes, whatsoe're they be,
 Nor much care what the *Stars* portend to me :
 For, he who to this *state of Grace* attains,
 Above the pow'r of *Constellations* reigns,
 And gets a *Resolution* therewithall,
 Which fits him so for what e're may befall,
 That he becomes a happier man than he
 Who can but tell what shall *hereafter* be.

I start not at a *Fryers* prophesie,
 Or, those with which we *Merlin* do belye :
 Nor am I frighted with the sad Narrations
 Of any near approaching *alterations* :
 For, things have ever *chang'd*, and ever shall,
 Until there doth a *Change* run over all :
 And he that bears an *honest heart* about him,
 Needs not to fear what *Changes* are *without* him.

The *Eastern Kingdoms* had a time to flourish ;
 The *Grecian Empire* rising, saw them perish :
 That sunk ; and then the *Roman Pride* began,
 Now bounded by the Race of *Ottoman* :
 And, if *Vicissitudes* a *Round* must run,
 Till all things end where they at first begun,
 What is't to me, who peradventure must
 E're that befalls, be mouldred into dust ?

What if *America's* large Tract of ground,
 And all those *Istles* adjoining, lately found,
 (Which we more truly may a *Desart* call,
 Than our well-till'd and civilized *Pal's*)

What

What if now there, that *Wilderness* doth lye,
 To which the *Woman* and her *Son* must flye
 To scape the *Dragons* fury? and there 'bide
 Till *Europes* thankless *Nations* for their *Pride*
 And other crying sins, o'rewhelmed be
 With such like *Barbarousness* as there we see.

If thus *GOD* please to do, and makes our sin
 The means of bringing those rude *Nations* in
 To be his *People*, (as vouchsaf'd it was
 The *Gentiles* calling should be brought to pass
 When he cast off the *Jews* for unbelief)
 Why should his pleasure be to me a grief?
 Oh! let his *Name* on Earth more honor'd grow,
 Although my *Ruine* helps to make it so.

Campo-Musæ, or, Field-Musings;
 Imprinted 1644.

THIS Poem was written whilst the Author was in
Arms for the *King* and *Parliament*, to reunite
 them, not to divide them, as appears by this *Impress*
 in his *Cornet*, under the figure of a *Sword* and *Pen*,
Pro Rege, Lege Grege. It was partly composed to
 vindicate himself from their *Aspersions*, who impu-
 ted unto him the deserting his *Principle* relating to
 the *Royal Power*; and partly to evidence, That he
 had neither actually or intentionally infringed it. But
 many other particulars were thereby offered to
 consideration, whereof some are here abbreviated.

The Contents of the said *Field-Musings*.

*A Question presuppos'd, the Muse
Makes Answer, and her Freedom shews.
Tells with what heart, With what intent
This War her Poet underwent :
Avers that Reason and the Laws
Will justify him in his Cause.*

*The Publick streights he doth express,
Lamenteth, and implores redress.
Fights Combats with Dofive Reason,
His Party to acquit from Treason ;
Them he encourageth to do
What GOD and Reason calls them to.
Then mentioning a Voice of Peace
That she hath heard, and there doth cease,
Intruding, ere she doth proceed,
To make some proof how this will speed.*

Having touched upon many *Omissions* and *Commissions* which occasioned several *Expostulations*, *Caveats* and *Predictions*, (to which the Reader is referred) this follows, pag. 20.

Our speedy *Reconcilement* hasten shall
The *Churches Triumph*, and Great *Babels fall*.
Her date is near, if I aright have hit
The meaning of the *Number*, left to be
A trial and probation of their *Wit*
Who seek the fall of *Antichrist* to see.
He is, with his *Partakers*, at this day
In publick and in private carrying on
The cunning'st plot which they have yet to play,
And when that's acted out, their *Play* is done.

Till

Till then their *Frands* will so some *Saints* beguile,
That *they* to their *Design* will furth'rance bring;
Yea, they shall help promote it for a while,
Who favour nor the *Persons*, nor the *Thing*.

But, lest your hearts may faint by long delay,
Heed for your comfort what my *Muse* will say.

That Year in which *Rome's* long-liv'd Emperie
Shall from the day in which it was at height,
Sum up M, D, C, L, X, V, and I,
In order as these *Letters* here incite,
That *Year*, that *Day*, that *Hour* will put a date
To her Usurped *Pow'r*, (reserving neither
Top, *Root* or *Branch* of that accursed *State*, (ther.
Nor *Hand*, nor *Body*, *Limb*, *Horn*, *Claw* or *Feet*.)

For here are all the *Numerals* of *Rome*
In order, as they are in valuation,
And cannot make a less or greater sum,
Without disorder, want, or iteration.

Nor shall it longer stand, or sooner fall,
If I mistake not him who governs all.

In number, weight and measure worketh he,
Allotting to each man the bound and season,
Which may both correspond with his *Decree*,
And somewhat also suit with humane *Reason*.
In *Egypt*, thus a certain time to stay
Was to the Seed of *Jacob* there assign'd;
Thus likewise to a fore-appointed day
The Reign of *Balthazar* was confin'd;
Thus from the time of *Daniels* Supplication,
The time when *Christ* should come, foretold appears
To be a preordained Limitation,
Until the end of *Seventy weeks* of years.

And

And thus *Rome's* declination may (no doubt)
Be numbring till her *Numerals* are out.

Two famous *Numbers* are in them contain'd,
The first declares the length of time wherein
The Devil was by Providence restrain'd
From setting up the *Mystery* of sin:
The later is the *number* of the BEAST,
Which when the *LETT* was taken quite away,
(Whereby he was a thousand years suppress'd)
Doth number out his *Kingdom* to a day.
It is the *number* of the *Name* or *Pow'r*
Ev'n of a *Man*, of that *Mysterious Man*,
By whom that *Myserie* is at this hour,
Continu'd, and by whom it *first* began.

And, he that can begin the *Thousandth* year,
Shall find the Ruine of both *Beasts* is near.

To search that out, it seems not hard to me,
Who do believe, that when of her *chief sin*
Rome to be guilty did appear to be,
Her *declination* did then first begin.
And sure, of all her *sins* the greatest Crime
Was, crucifying of the *Lord of Life*,
And her *unjustly persecuting them*
Who tendred *Saving-Grace* to their belief.
Then, I presume, she first to fall began,
And, that GOD *measur'd, weigh'd, and numbred* out
How many backward rounds her wheel should run,
Before it should the last time turn about.

Thus in those *numerals* which are her own,
Join'd all together, was her *Fate* writ down.

To

To bring to pass that *work* there was a LET
To be remov'd, of no mean consequence;
Which was removed at the time fore-set,
And her new off-spring hath reign'd ever since.
But with exceeding infamy and scorns,
The *Beast*, which now so powerful seems to some,
Shall lose his *Head*, and moult away his *Horns*,
And to the world a laughing-stock become.
Then many *Juglings* hitherto conceal'd,
(And which to blind the heedless *Christians* eye,
In *seven dark Mysteries*, have long been seal'd)
Shall to the faithful soul uncover'd lye.
That *Kingdom* which the *Jew* did long ago
Mould out according to his erring brain;
(And whereof many zealous *Christians* too
Unwarrantable *Fancies* entertain.)

That *Kingdom* (whereof now in *types* we hear)
Shall to the world *essentially* appear.

Be patient therefore, ye that are oppress;
This *Generation* shall not pass away,
Till some behold the downfall of that *Beast*,
Which yet among us with his *Tail* doth play.
Then will the *Lamb* of GOD begin to take
The *Kingdom* to himself, and ev'ry *King*
That of his *Right* shall Usurpation make,
To *Judgment* and *destruction* he shall bring.
No *Kingling* then, assume the boldness shall
Blasphemously (for know it is no less)
To stile himself the *King Catholic*,
As if Earths Universal Globe were his;
For, though another hath Usurpt thereon,
That title doth belong to *Christ* alone.

And,

And, 'tis no wonder if the *Potentates*,
Kings, and the *Rulers* of this world combine
 By Policy to strengthen their Estates,
 And with the *Beast*, with *GOG* and *Magog* join.
 No marvel if enraged they appear,
 Through jealousies, and fear of losing that
 By which their *Pride* and *Lusts* maintained were,
 And which base fear and flat'ry first begat :
 For all those *Kingdoms* and those *Emperies*
 Throughout the world, which their beginning took
 By humane wit, fraud, force and tyrannies,
 Shall pass away, and vanish into smoak.

An *Army* whereof here's yet little hope,
 Shall wrest the *Scepter* both from *Turk* and *Pope*.

Religion, and meer *shows* of *Piety*,
 Have been so long the Masks of base Designs;
 The great *Viceregents* of their *Deity*,
 Have made such *Politicians* of *Divines*;
 And these together, have so fool'd and cheated
 The Consciences of persons well inclin'd,
 That, of all *Freedom*s they are nigh defeated,
 Belonging to the *Body* and the *Mind*;
 Yea, they have so mock'd GOD, and on his *Throne*
 And his *Prerogative* so far encroach'd,
 That, of his *Honour* being jealous grown
 Much longer bear he will not such reproach.

But, to the *Saints* their *Liberties* restore,
 And give those *Kings* their portion with their *hore*.

*D'*nt startle at it, as if I had spoke
High Treason ? or, as if what I now say
 Without a warrant I had undertook
 To publish, as perhaps you think I may.

If so, know, that I had this *Information*
 Not from a *private Spirit*, but from his
 Well known and unsuspected *Revelation*,
 Who to his *Church* long since revealed this.
 They who will to the *Lamb* their Crowns resign,
 And shall (the *Beast* opposing) be content
 To reign according to *Christ's Discipline*,
 (And his *Command*) shall keep their *Government*.
 The rest cast off, shall wail and curse their birth,
 With *Tyrants*, and the *Merchants of the Earth*.

Christ and his *Law* shall then bear all the sway,
 By *Governments*, resembling that perchance,
 For which the *Jews* *GOD's* yoke did cast away,
 The *Kingship* of the *Gentiles* to advance,
 And as his *People* foolishly did crave
 (Instead of his mild *Scepter* to retain)
 A *Heath'nish Monarchy*, which doth enslave
 And seek by *Arbitrary Pow'rs* to reign;
 So shall all *Nations* be content to leave
 Their *Ethnick Bonds*, and with his holy *Nation*
Christ's Precepts and his *Discipline* receive,
 And joint partakers be of their *Salvation*.

And when this glorious *Kingdom* doth begin,
 The *fulnes* of the *Gentiles* will come in.

GOD hath so long deferred the possession
 Of that great *Mercy*, because *Worldliness*,
Hypocrisie and *Discord* keep the blessing
 From ripening into such a happiness:
 Some in *unrighteousness* the *Truth* retain'd,
 And make the same thereby the less believ'd;
 Some by an *outward Sanctity* have gain'd
 The means to have their *Heresies* believ'd.

Whilst some pursue the *Antichrist without them*,
 An *Antichrist* ariseth up within;
 Which if they look not warily about them,
 New work for *Reformation* will begin.

But GOD will finish what he preordains,
 When *Penitence* for sin the means obtains.

In the Sixty third page of this *Poem*, the *Author*
 for illustration of that *Mystery*, adds this that fol-
 lows.

And lastly, I have weigh'd, that not alone
 A *plot* is laid these *Kingdoms* to undo;
 But likewise, in their spoil to have undone
 All other true *Reformed Churches* too.
 I see GOD's *glory*, and the *servitude*
 Of all his *People* in this *Cause* concern'd;
 And whatsoever others do conclude,
 I these *conclusions* with good *warrant* learn'd,
 That those *whom* in this *warfare* we resist,
 Are neither worse nor better than those *bands*,
 And those *Confederates* of *Antichrist*,

Which are this day his *Champions* in these *Lands*:

And, that who ever fighteth on their side,

When this is known, have GOD & *Christ* deni'd.

I see as plainly as I see the Sun,
 He draweth near who on the *white Horse* rides;
 The long expected *Battel* is begun;
 The *Beest* to muster up his *Kings* provides:
 With him his bloody *Edomites* conspire,
 The *Seeds* of *Hagar*, and the *Sons* of *Lot*,
Philistia, *Gebal*, *Moab*, *Ammon*, *Tire*,
 And all who with his *mark* themselves bespot.

To

To meet these, those *white Regiment*, I see,
 That on the *Lord of Hosts*, and *King of Kings*
 Attending in triumphant habits be:
 And, whilst I contemplate the aid he brings,
 Methinks I hear his *Angel* call the *Crowd*,
 To eat the *Kings* and *Captains* of his *Enemies*.

To strengthen the Faith, and confirm the Patience of the *Saints*, this *Mysterie* is insisted upon in many other of this *Author's* Writings, as occasions were offer'd; and are thought not impertinently expressed in a various *Mode* to the same effect, because the ignorance or heedlessness of many, require both *reiteration* and plainness, to prevent mistakes. There are also many other *Neglected Remembrances* contained in the aforesaid *Poem*, to the perusal whereof more at large, the *Reader* is referred.

The DARK LANTHORN,

Imprinted 1650.

THIS is a *Parabollical*, and *Enigmatical Poem*, containing, with some plain *Precautions* and *Remembrances*, many dark *Predictions*, and begins thus:

He, from whose perfect *Light*, all true *Lights* come,
 Spake *Parables*; yea, spake nought else to some:
 And *Providence* by many various wayes
 Of *Dispensation*, to the world conveyes
 The means of carrying on those *works* which tend
 To mans perfection at his latter end:

And, to, the wonderful accomplishment
Of what eternally is his intent,
Bringeth about oft times the *self-same things*,
(Or such like) toward their accomplishings,
That prudent men might apprehend thereby
What he delights, and therewithal comply, &c.

And in the Seventh Page he proceeds thus:
I may perhaps be, among others, one
Who was design'd for service to be done
In order thereunto (as I conceive
I am, and as (when I am gone) some will believe,
Though few so think now, for although I dress
The *Mind and Matter of my Messages*
In measur'd words (and trimmed with such *Fancies*
As are allowed in *Poetick Fancies*,
To pass for sober Garbs) yet, now and then
I blunder out that which *meer worldly men*
Count *madness*, and what oft the *best men* too
Sometimes, do think becomes not me to do,

But I best know my *warrant*, and proceed
As I am mov'd (with little fear or heed,
What others judge) and that which makes me dare
What seemeth *madness*, helpeth to prepare
Such *strains*, as other while produceth heed'ing (ing:
Of what had not else been thought worth the read-
And, these my *Ridlings* now, are an *Invention*
Which partly were design'd with that intention;
And partly likewise to amuse those *Readers*
Who to my *Principles* are counter-pleaders.

When many think the *Times* afford me may
Enough to speak of, I have nought to say.
When I to ought am called, I cast by
My own *Affairs*, and to that *Call* apply

As

As I occasion find; venting sometimes
My thoughts in *Prose*, and otherwhile in *Rimes*;
One while in sharp and bitter *strains* reproving;
Sometimes by *Admonitions* calm and loving;
Yea, *Jiggs* of recreation sometimes fiddling,
And now I'm fall'n into a fit of *Ridling*.

Riddle my *Riddles* then, you that have heard
Truths oft, and plainly spoke without regard,
(Except it were in malice to combine
Against their peace, who cast their Pearls to swine)
Riddle them if you can; for in them lies
A *Dark Character* of our *Destinies*.
Those things within these *Problems* couched are,
Which I once thought more plainly to declare;
But, from that purpose have now chang'd my mind,
That seeing you might see, yet still be blind:
That you might read, and yet not understand
The *works* which GOD and *Men* have now in hand.
Till those *Events* befall to you, which may
Produce those good effects which you delay.
To which intent, that which I would unfold,
Shall *Heroglyphically* now be told.

Page the 21, after many *pre-occupations* to confirm
himself in prosecuting what he intended, he thus
again proceeds.

But I will wheel about, and with the Rein
Turn *Pegasus* into his path again:
Though he in his digressions (as we say
Of *Beggars*) never is beside his way.

Once on a time (thus did old *Tales* begin
Ere I was born, or thought so to have been)

A foolish People, (overmuch at ease)
 Their wantonness and vanity to please, (wood
 Among their May-games, brought home from the
 Trees, which had else till now unheeded stood.
 Of these they made, by hewings, knocks & smoothing,
 That look like something, which resembled nothing.
 And out of shapeless, knotty Loggs, did hew
 Some Statues, not uncomely to the view.
 These, ere quite finish'd (with some jeers and mocks)
 They set up higher over other Blocks.
 Them so repolishing, and painting so,
 That of what stuff they were, few men could know.
 Beginning then their own work to admire,
 They rais'd them higher, and a little higher,
 Till Idols they became, with whom they grew
 At first familiar, and did them bestrew
 With flow'rs and garlands; shortly after they
 Bow'd humbly down before them ev'ry day.
 Till custom had their Judgment quite befool'd:
 For, when they them inskrin'd did behold,
 Sparkling with Jewels, and with Gold array'd,
 They of their own Creations grew afraid;
 And, at the last (as at the last such do,
 Who after their own Fancies whoring go)
 They much repenting their fond Superstition,
 Bewail'd the slavery of their condition;
 With some appearances of an intent
 To grow more wise, as well as penitent. (not,
 Yea, to blaspheme their new-made Gods they spar'd
 And would have pull'd them down again, but dar'd
 For, by their flat'ring Attributes long given, (not.
 They had advanc't them to a Sphere (or Heaven)
 Where uncontroll'd, a Power they exercis'd
 According to their Will; and them despis'd

Whose

Whose hands had made them, and whose breath had
blown them

Too high for their *Ambitiousness* to own them.
Their *Incantations* by degrees had brought
Strange Spirits into what their hands had wrought,
Alluring, and enabling them unto
Those *actings* which their *Makers* might undo.
Yet still these Block-heads persever'd, and will
To make such *Idols*, and adore them still,
Till both they and their *Puppets* are destroy'd,
Unless the GOD of Gods make *just fears* void :
For, most men being of a *slavish mind*,
Are so much unto *slavishness* enclin'd,
That to fulfil their *slavish lust* they'l fawn
Upon a *Dog*; and lay their souls to pawn.
Riddle this Riddle, if you can, and tell
What *People* this may be, and where they dwell;
Which I believing you with ease may do,
Will add this following *Parable* thereto.

There was a time when silly *Bees* could speak,
(A *People* of much industry, though weak)
Among themselves, these lately made great moans,
As being much oppress'd by their *Drones*,
Who (having made incursions among those
That had an uncontrollable dispose
In their *Republike*) did in various wise,
Encroachments make on their *properties*,
And greedily unto themselves deave
The fatness and the sweetness of the *Hive*.
Complaints in private no redress obtaining,
Encrease to open and avow'd complaining;
Which finding like successes, they begun
To *buzz*, as when a *swarming time* comes on :

Then,

Then to shut up their *Cells*, to shake their wings,
 To leave their wonted *work*, and shew their stings.
 At first the *Drones* were frighted much thereat,
 But (being not so wise as they were fat)
 Neglected still the course which might prevent
 The mischiefs then appearing imminent.
 Which when I saw, I would no longer stay,
 But said, *God help them*, and so came away.
 This *Parable*, if rightly moraliz'd,
 Affords a meaning not to be despis'd.

And so doth what next follows. As I went
 On Pilgrimage unto the *Parliament*,
 I there attending saw some of the *Cocks*
 (Which kept our *Hens* and *Capons* from the *Fox*)
 With broken wings, with backs without a Feather,
 To hide their naked bodies from the weather.
 With plumeless tails, with scarred necks & breasts,
 With empty bellies, with their combs and crests
 Quite worn away, and scraping with their feet
 On Dunghils for their food, and in the street,
 So despicably, that it could appear
 By nothing (save their *spurs*) what once they were:
 And *Popinjays* and *Parrots* clad and fed
 With what the valour of these purchased;
 These trim'd up in their Feathers, strutting by
 Did cast upon them a disdainful eye,
 Which heeding, I suppose (I tell you true)
 To be no good *Presage*. Pray what think you?

News, if you look for, I but little know
 Save such as this next *Parable* doth show,
 A fair *Ship* now lies floating on the Flouds,
 Well fraught with *Passengers*, well fill'd with goods,
 Lab'ring to fix an Anchor on the strand
 Of her wisht *Harbour*, which lies near at hand.

By

By many storms much tackling she hath spent,
Her Masts are shatter'd, and her Sails are rent:
Her *Ammunition*, and her stores are wasted,
Her *bread and beaverage* is evil tasted, (seams,
Her *Keel* springs leaks, through her uncawked
Her *Knees* are weakned, broken are her beams,
Her *Pump* is crack't, no Cable sound hath she,
And *Anchors* have been slipt, till none there be.
Her *Helm* hangs loose; her *Card* hath great defects,
Her *Compass* likewise often interdicts,
And ev'ry where she craziness doth feel
From *Prow* to *Stern*, from *Top-mast* to the *Keel*:

In this condition to and fro she drives,
And on the Waves with much ado she lives:
For, now of late again, the *Sea* grows high,
A stiff gale blows, and she expos'd doth lye
To many hazards close without a *Barr*
Betwixt two *Fore-lands* which in kenning are.
If she to *Seaward* forth again should stand,
There *Pirates* threaten her; if then to *Land*
She makes, the *Rock*s lye scatter'd here and there,
In which as great or greater dangers are.
And which is worse, they who should be her guide,
Are false, and mutinously qualified.

Some ignorant, some treacherous, and some
Ambitious how possessors to become
Of what belongs to others. Some of those
Who have this *Publike Ship* at their dispose,
Have in *delays* their time and stores mispent,
For private ends, and for accomplishment
Of worse Designs, and in this great distress,
(Partly through *fear*, in part through *guiltiness*)
So much amus'd, and so amazed are
That, they are at a loss what *course* to steer

Both to secure themselves, and their *Design*,
Without which, to no *course* they will incline, &c.

But maugre all these hazards, she at last
In her wish'd *Harbour* shall an Anchor cast,
And take in both good *Pilots* and *Recruits*,
When her *Fate* seems to promise no such fruits.
You therefore, who conceive your *Interest*
To be concern'd, by what is here exprest,
Praise GOD alone, when safe this *Ship* shall be,
For to secure her there is none but He.

And, let not any to whom this relates,
Slight what the *Parable* insinuates,
Which next ensueth : For, it hath some use
That much to their advantage may conduce:
A *home-br.d Lyon* (of a hair unknown,
In *Africa*) by being overgrown,
And dreadful to his *Keepers*, shall thereby
Awake the rage of smother'd Jealousie,
And lose his *Tayle*, except between his paws
He couch his head, and hide his teeth and claws,
Or else grow *Rampant*; what will follow then?
Ask those you credit, they are cunning men ;
Of me you ask in vain; for 'tis my Fate
Seldom to be believ'd, till 'tis too late.

This was interpreted as a Relative to *Oliver Cromwell*, then Lord General of the *Army*, whose Arms was a *White Lyon*. It follows thus :

— They who have took delight
In deeds of *darkness*, will put out the *light*.
By which the footsteps of, their *Foes* are known,
And, whereby they might see to guide their own.

In

Instead thereof, they raise and follow shall
 An *Ignis fatuus*, which will hazard all,
 And *Providence* to each man shall dispose
 That which for his chief happiness he chose.
 The *Dogs* unto their vomit shall retire:
 The *Swine*, who love to wallow in the mire,
 Themselves with their beloved filth shall fill;
 And they who are unclean, shall be so still.
 The wilful *Adders* who do stop their ears,
 And will not heed the *Charmer* whom he hears,
 Shall feel a voice within them, which will shake them
 Out of their dumps, & from their deafness wake them
 When 'tis too late (it may be) to prevent
 The dint of their forewarned detriment.
 The *Leaches* shall by *Salt* a vomit take,
 Or else continue sucking till they break.
 The *Bubbles*, who in emptiness do find
 Most pleasure, shall be puffed up with wind,
 Till blown up into *nothing*, there appear
 No signs that in the world such *Bladders* were.
 The *Sons of Earth*, who with the *GODS* make war,
 Shall heap up Hills on Hills, till crush't they are
 By their own handy-works. The *Shrubs* now grown
 More lofty than the *Cedars*, they broke down;
 Among their thorns and leaves a fire do hide,
 Which on a sudden will consume their pride.

The *Grubbs* and *Maggots* (but ere while so small,
 So poor and weak, that they could hardly crawl)
 Have got bulk, strength, new forms, aspiring wings,
 Yea, dreadful *teeth*, and *horns*, and *claws*, and *stings*;
 But, by a storm, whereof they have no dread,
 They shall consume as fast as they were bred.
 Out of the putrified barbed *Steed*,
 Shall generated be a numerous breed

Of noisome *Hornets*, which abroad will flye,
Much mischief acting, and next *Winter* dye.

The blasted *Orange*, and the crooked *Vine*,
With other Plants on either side of *Rhine*,
Shall twist together, that beneath their shade,
A shelter for the *Thistle* may be made,
Till they perceive what *Plagues* are in pursuit
Of that ejected *Plant*, *Branch*, *Root* and *Fruit* :
Then will they wiser grow, lest they become
Exposed justly to the self-same doom.
Mean while the *Tawny Olive* shall assay
His *Roots* into these *Valleys* to convey.
From whence it was removed, and effect
Thereby what very few do now suspect,
Except the *Willow* and the *Oak* foresee
What for their mutual weal should acted be,
Whereby they frustrate may a *grand Design*
Which is on foot, both *States* to undermine ;
And they who thereunto first *Movers* are,
Shall of that *Blessing* reap the greatest share.

Observe this well ; If you hereafter see
(Which peradventure may permitted be)
The *Red-Cross* from its former height decline,
And for a time the *Half-Moon* Northward shine
With an ill *Influence* upon the *Seas*,
Beyond the *Pillars* of great *Hercules* ,
And not be retrograde, till it hath more
Effects that way, then ever heretofore ;
Expect some consequence will then ensue,
Which many who yet dream not of, will rue.
But losses are sometimes a gainful prize ;
By *or-disights* men grow to be more wise,
And they who heed not now what doth concern
Their *welfare*, will perhaps more wisdom learn,

When

When more *Experience* makes their *Judgment* stron-
By suff'ring *loss* and *shame* a little longer. (ger.

We on this side the *Water* are not yet
Confus'd enough, that *order* to beget
That must reform us; and shall here therefore
Pursue *self-interest* yet more and more,
Till such as are in *Pow'r* vouchsafe to hear
The Counsel of their slighted *Engineer*.
The *Old Robe* with *New Cloth* will patched be,
Though Rents thereby still wider made they see,
Till every Rag is quite worn out, and then
They with a *whole Robe* shall be cloth'd agen;
And they who own it, be secured more,
And much more dignifi'd then heretofore.
When they who would effect it, make their choices
As well by *Lot Divine*, as humane voices;
Whereto *self-seekers* never will agree,
Till by some *streight* it shall enforced be.

But when this comes to pass, there will appear
A new *Light* shining in our *Hemisphear*
That will disperse the Clouds and Fogs which make
So many crosse each other, and mistake
The way to *safety*. Then, we shall perceive
Our Opposites desire to interweave
Their *Interest* with ours, and if sincere,
They shall, in what will be produced here
Partake; and both together then possess
Each other, and the world, in *Christian Peace*,
Till he appeareth to ascend the *Throne*,
Who must unite all *Nations* into one.

Then shall the glaring *Comets* which have seem'd
Fixt Stars, (and so by many are esteem'd)
Ev'n they of greatest magnitude, down from
Their heights be cast, and more despis'd become

I hen

Then *Glowworms*, or those rotten Chips that glare
 In darkness, as if *real lights* they were :
 Then every *single Person* shall be brought
 Unto his *Test*, and that which he hath wrought,
 To trial comes; moreover they who now
 By spoiles and by oppression powerful grow,
 Will then become the scorn of every one,
 Whom they oppress, despis'd and trampled on.

Then they who large *Indulgencies* contrive
 For others, that themselves they may *forgive*;
 Who cunningly at *fast and loose* do play,
 Who take to *morrow*, what they give to *day*;
 And make their *seeming favours* means unto
 Those mischiefs which their *malice* could not do;
 Who, *Spider-like*, weave Cobwebs with pretence
 To catch the *Flyes* alone, which give offence;
 When none but *harmless Bees* their Engines take,
 For *Wasps* and *Hornets* passage through them make.
 They who do sacrifice unto the *dead*,
 That wherewithall the *living* should be fed;
 Who justify the *wicked* in their way,
 And unto death *men innocent* betray;
 These then, and all such like, shall to their *doom*
 With horror, fear, and with amazement come.

Page 33, it thus follows :

Then from the *buried Oxe* will forth arise
 A swarm of thrifty *Honey-making Flyes*,
 That shall with sweetness and with plenty store
 These *Islands* from the *Midland* to the *shore*,
 And spread their *Floating Hives* on all the *Seas*,
 'T'wixt both the *Tropicks*, to th' *Antipodes*,
 To make *Preparatives* for that which brings
 Into one body all dispersed things.

Some

Some other things of no mean consequence
 I do foresee approaching, not far hence;
 But so obscurely, that I cannot say
 Without all doubtings, whereto tend they may;
 For far beyond my apprehension lies
 The Chain of those remote *Contingencies*,
 Which draw on future things, because my *Glass*
 Through which the notions of them are to pass,
 Is so defective, that they do perchance
 Misrepresent them in some circumstance.
 Yet by the enlightnings which the *Sacred Writ*
 On *Sanctified Reason* doth beget,
 (If we well heed, consider and compare
 What things *have been*, with such as *present* are
 To GOD and *Men* relating) we of some
Things future, may aright inform'd become.

The Perpetual PARLIAMENT,
Imprinted 1650.

IN this *Poem* the *Author* having *More Poetico*, expressed a *Contemplative Vision*, preparative to what he intended, he thus proceeds, *pag. 44.*

——By what hath represented been,
 By well *confid'ring* what I had seen,
 By *spelling out* what ev'ry *Character*
 Holds forth, to evidence those things that were
 Thereby intended, I found out therein
 Where that great *Work* must first of all begin,
 Which may make up our *breaches*, when thereto
 Our selves we settle, as we ought to do.

I saw that on a future settlement,
 And constitution of a *Parliament*
 Upon a just *Foundation* laid, with speed,
 A means of *Restoration* might succeed,
 That introducing therewith, which might bring
 Into right Order ev'ry other thing,
 Our *outward Weal* promoting, if we take
 That *course* whereof proposal I now make.
 I am likewise perswaded (ev'n without
 So much as any shadow of a doubt)
 That by this *Parliaments* misconstitution,
 We are incapable of that fruition
 Which we expect; that (for the most part) thence
 Proceeds the cause of all our Indigence,
 And that this *Parliament* is naytheless
 The Chief, (if not sole means of our redress)
 Ev'n this, which many at this day do seek
 To bring (by disrespect) into dislike,
 And to a nullity, as if thereby
 They had no hopes of our recovery:
 For by this *Parliament* GOD would effect
 The future Settlement they do expect,
 If they too long delay'd not the pursuit
 Of an impartial rational *Recruit*.

Although the *Body* of it, being made
 Of *Members*, which among them long have had
 (And yet hath over-many) so corrupted,
 That they have not alone much interrupted
 Their *activeness* who discontinue sound,
 But now are also likely to confound
 The *whole* at once, by seeking how to please
 Their *Lusts* or *Friends*; yet we might maugre these,
 Restored be by those who have been just,
 And to their utmost pow'r perform'd their trust:

It

It is from those that we denominate
 This *Parliament*, in them is lodg'd our *Fate*
 Conditionally; yea, whatsoe're they seem,
 This is (as things are) that which must redeem
 Our Honour lost; and if then it shall
 Dissolved be, down will their *Structures* fall,
 Not to be rais'd without the cost of more
 Then hath been spent upon it heretofore.

But, as they are, what prudent man can think
 It will be long ere totally they sink?
 For while they shall endeavour to subsist,
 Without preserving of their Interest
 Who *chuse* them, or permit their dissolution;
 With our late hardly gained *Constitution*;
 (Which now without enforcement can by none
 Effected be, but by it self alone)
 They shall henceforth for ever be unable
 To gain a *Government* that will be stable,
 Unless a *Phoenix*, yet unhatcht, arise
 Out of their Ashes, with renew'd Supplies,
 Which seeing that may probably be never,
 They some *Expedient* must with speed endeavour.

In this, and after the 45th page in the *Imprinted Copies*, the sense in many pages was so mistaken by the *Transcriber*, or the *Printer*, that the *Expedient* thereby intended, is confusedly express'd; the result whereof was to this effect afore expressed; and it thus follows, *pag. 50.*

Let them take notice, that the *Peoples* rage
 At their *delays*, is likely to engage
 In some disorderly *Resolve*, unless
 They see that followed with more seriousness,
 N Which

Which they expect either in a *Parliament*
New-moulded, or by what's equivalent.
 For, 'tis conceiv'd their sufferings may thereby,
 And thereby onely, meet a Remedy :
 Which *Cure*, if misadvis'd I have not been,
 Must with the *Parliament* it self begin.

There is a *Course*, whereby without disgrace
 Or danger, they may bring a work to pass
 That will secure from hazards, cost and pain,
 Which without *thanks* or *profit* you sustain,
 Afflicting others too, by those *confusions*
 Which are encreased by irresolutions.
 Until a better, therefore, shall appear,
 Be pleased this *Expedient* to hear;
 And if thereby you find a likelihood
 Of ought conducing to your future good,
 Take heed that no *Self-Interest* divert
 That approbation whereunto your heart
 Inclineneth you; for, GOD will find it out,
 And cross the *Counter-work* you go about.

In *England* and in *Wales* there is a Shire
 For ev'ry Week that's numbred in the year :
 According to the *Months*, by *Twelve* divide
 The *Counties*, with the *Persons qualifi'd*
 For *Knights* and *Burgesses*, proportioning,
 As near as may be, to an equalling
 The number of the whole, so, or so many
 Unto each *Month*, (without omitting any.)
 As certain then, the *Month* and *Day* wherein
 Each *Twelfth* part an *Election* shall begin,
 (The *middle* of the *Week* appearing best,
 As being farthest from the day of *Rest*)
 On the first *Wednesday* of each *Month*, let those
 By whom their *Deputies* are to be chose,

(Respectively) convene in ev'ry Shire,
 Upon that *Month* and *Wednesday* every year,
 Which is to them assign'd; then, having chosen
 (At *Months end*) let each *twelfth part* of the *dozen*
 Send up their *chosen men* to represent
 Their *Shires* and *Burroughs* in the *Parliament*;
 And, on that very day in which they come,
 Let all their *Predecessors* give them room.
 Thus one *Month* some, & *Month* by *Month* for ever,
 Let each *Twelfth part* still orderly persevere
 To take a *turn*, till ev'ry Shire hath had
 A *Month* in ev'ry year; then having made
 Their *choice*, let them still enter, and withdraw,
 Successively, by a *Perpetual Law*,
 No man a place of *Trust* supplying there,
 By one *Election*, longer then *One year*.

Thus, as the *Thames* doth still continue one,
 And, is the *self-same River*, though there run
 A new supply of waters ev'ry day
 Along her Channel; you continue may
 The *Parliament* by Annual Supply
 To be the *self-same* everlastingly,
 (With very little change or molestation
 To them, who *chuse* or represent the *Nation*.)
 Thus may the *Parliament* be both together
Successive and *Perpetual*, yet neither
 Enjoying such a *Perpetuity*
 As can occasion future *Tyranny*,
 Or *present Grievances* (save such alone
 As wholly can prevented be by none:)
 Nor shall we be endammag'd by *Succession*,
 Or by *Parliaments* long *Intermission*;
 But form a *Constitution* which will add
 All *Pow'r* which may be for advantage had,

Either to gain what *best men* would effect,
Or to prevent the Mischiefs they suspect.

What I intend, may plainly be conceiv'd,
And, to that end, some things may be contriv'd
Much better, if your *Wisdom* shall refine
The rudeness of my proffered *Design*,
And by *Authority* strict *Rules* provide,
Whereby th' *Elected* may be qualify'd,
And their *Electors* too; for 'twere unjust
In things of this *Concernment* those to trust
Who have disturb'd your *Peace*, until a time
For their *Probation* is allotted them;
And, till they likewise by their good desert
Make manifest a reconciled heart,
Their Merits being well weigh'd by such *Judges*
As may suspend usurped *Privileges*.

And since, ev'n they who are the best affected
To *common Welfare*, often have elected
Such as deceive their *Trust*; since there's no eye
But GOD's, that sees the hearts Hypocrisie;
And, since we find it left upon Record,
(Ev'n in the Volume of the *Sacred Word*)
That *LOI's* were needful in the choice of those
To whom they did a *Supreme Pow'r* impose;
Since likewise when the purest *Congregation*
In all the world, had with deliberation
Elected two; a *Lot* was also cast
(Before an *approbation* thereon past)
To send forth him who was to be employ'd
In execution of the place then void,
That GOD might also have his choice therein,
It was no doubt vouchsafed to have been
Exemplar, that we might with warranty
In this approved *President* comply :

For,

For GOD by his *Election* join'd with our,
 Will probably upon the *Elected* pour
 His Grace. This will moreover give content
 To *prudent men*, and frequently prevent
 The *choice* of those whom for sinister ends,
 A numerous corrupted Party sends.
 Why may not then? Why should not *Two be chose*
 For ev'ry place that's void, and one of those
 By *Lot*? that GOD therein may have a *voice*,
 And join with *men*, in perfecting their *choice*?
 Since they who do th's *Nation* represent,
 Are GOD's *Viceregents* in the Government,
 As well as our *Trustees*, who would not more
 In such a *Choice* confide, then heretofore
 In their *Elections*? or then they will do
 In Those hereafter not *Elected* so?

Why was it not, why should it not be thus,
 If this the *Kingdom* be of GOD WITH US?
 But that, *Self-seekers* know, were this admitted,
 They by reputed *fools*, should be outwitted?
 And not so easily obtain a power,
 Hereafter to oppress and to devour.
 To no good end have *LOTS* been from among
 All such *Elections* shuffled out so long;
Usurpers and *Intruders* do well know
Lots would their *Kingdoms* quickly overthrow,
 Make them afraid, that *Christ* will reign indeed,
 (As they with discontent oft hear and read)
 And that without controul, in time to come,
 They should not rant and revel in his *Room*
 As now they do, and will, till we begin
 A better *course* then that which we are in.

If timely some provision might be made,
 To our *Elections*, *Lots* henceforth to add,

Much

Much information would thereby redound,
 And great advantages therein be found.
 So might there also, if that whensoever
 Th' *Elect* to perform their duty were,
 Some short speech might be made, or *cautions* read,
 Whereby it should be offer'd to their heed,
 How much it will concern them to take care
 What *choice* they make, and what the dangers are,
 Which may ensue, when some *Sinister ends*
 The dread of *greatness*, or respects to *Friends*,
 Makes them misplace their *trust*, and cast away
 Themselves, and all, for ever, in one day.

This to prevent, 'twere fitting to make known
 What *Trust* that is which is on them bestown,
 What *Benefits* may gen'rally arise,
 By chusing men *couragious, honest, wise*,
 And *fearing GOD*: what *perils* will ensue,
 (Which by forepast examples we may shew)
 If *Cowards, fools, ungodly men, and vicious*,
 Or to the present *Government* pernicious,
 They should elect. They may likewise, declare
 How qualify'd such persons should appear,
 And warn them, that they never do unhallow
 Their *Choice* with any, such as these that follow.

Men over-talkative, affecting much
 To hear themselves speak; for, not many such
 Can keep or give good *Counsel*; and they'll prate
 Much precious time away in *vain debate*.
Your Common-Gamblers, for they are not just
 Unto themselves, and them we should not trust
 With other mens *Estates*, who have been known
 To lose, or hazard desperately their own.
Men to their pleasures over-much adlied;
 For *Publike Work* will be by them neglected.

Chuse

Chuse not men evidently *avaricious*,
 Or of Promotion greedily *ambitious*;
 For if their ends thereby obtain these may,
 They will be brib'd their *Countrey* to betray;
 Or quite neglect their *Trust* to court their *Whore*;
 And shame their fellows, if they do no more.

Of *Irreligious Persons* make no choice,
 For these will very seldom give their voice.
 But in the *Negative*, to any motion
 That may be for advancement of *Devotion*.
 Chuse none who are defam'd in any kind,
 For such as they will an occasion find
 To hinder all enactings that restrain
Ill manners, or to *sober life* pertain.
 Elect not *Children*, for it is unfit
 That in your *Supream Councils* they should sit
 To vote in Grand Affairs, whom *Law* restrains
 From managing what to themselves pertains.
 Chuse none who are observed to withhold (could:
 Their long due debts, when they discharge them
 Nor *Outlaw'd persons*; for unfit are they
 To make us *Laws*, who would not *Law*.
 Chuse none who shall sollicit or propose
 That they for your *Law-makers* may be chose.
 Nor such as their *Electors* by th' abuse
 Of *Feastings*, *Wine* and *Banqueting* seduce:
 For they who shall (*uncall'd*) themselves advance
 To that great *Work*, have much more *arrogance*
 Than *real worth*; and it is ten to one
 They for themselves have somewhat to be done, &c

There are many other particulars pertinent to
 the *Trust* mentioned in this *Poem*, as also, other *pre-*
cautions and *predilections* of the good and evil conse-
 quences

quences likely to ensue, in that *Poem* hinted, with a purpose onely to bring those things to consideration, which wiser men may improve, according to the *Author's* intention, by a better method then is here proposed: therefore to the perusal thereof, the *Reader* is referred.

The AUTHOR's EMBLEMS,

Imprinted 1634.

THIS *Book*, written by the said *Author* in his younger years, is a *Poem* in Folio, containing two hundred *Figures* engraven in Copper, and illustrated with *Morals*, and a *Lottery* annexed, the better to insinuate into young *Readers*, those *Divine Morals*, and *Civil Documents*, which are thereby tendred to consideration. Out of those, a few onely are collected, the rest may be perused in the *Original*.

In the First Booke of *Emblems*, pag. 2, is a *Laureat head* fixed upon a *Basis of Stone*.

Still fixt, and with triumphant *Laurel* crown'd,
Is truest *Wisdom*, which expressed thus
Among some old *Impressa's* we have found,
And much this *Emblem* hath instructed us.
From hence we learn, that *Prudence* doth not flow
From those unconstant men, whom ev'ry *blast*,
Of slight occasion turneth to and fro,
But from a fixt head that standeth fast.

Who

Who ever shoulders him, he gives not place;
 What storm so'e're his *Times* or *Fortunes* breath,
 He neither hides his brow, nor turns his face,
 But keeps a look undaunted ev'n in death.
 The *Laureat Head* upon a *Pillar* set,
 This intimates, and his *Bay-wreath* doth shew
 That *Constant Wisdom* shall a *Conquest* get,
 When *Giddy Policy* prevails not so.

If therefore, thou art willing to be taught,
 Propose good *Ends*, with honest means thereto;
 And therein constant be, till thou hast brought
 That to perfection, which thou hast to do.
 Let neither flat'ring *Pleasures*, *Fear*, *Disgrace*,
 Nor *Scoffing Censures*, *Threatnings*, or the *Slights*
 Of *fawning Sycophants*, obstruct that Race
 To which a blameless *Prudence* thee invites.
 Though others plot, conspire and undermine,
 Keep then a plain right path; let not their *Course*
 Make thee without just cause to alter thine,
 Though for the present it may seem the worse.
 He that thus acts, puts *Policy* to Shool,
 And makes the *Machavilian* prove a fool.

In the same Book, pag. 5.

A *Spade*, a *Serpent*, and a *Wreath* of *Lawrel*.

Suppose you, *Sirs*, those *mimick Apes* you meet
 In strange *fantastick habits*, or the *Rabble*
 That with gay *Clothes* embroder out the street,
 Are truly *Worshipful* or *Honourable*?
 Or can you think, that to be born the Son
 Of some rich *Alderman*, or ancient *Peer*,
 Or, that the *Fame* your *Predecessors* won,
 May claim such *Wreaths* as *due deservings* wear?

Is honour due to them who spend their dayes
 In courting one another, or consuming
 Their Fortunes and themselves on Drabs and Plays,
 In sleeping, drinking, and *Tobacco* fuming?
 Not so; for (though such *Fools*, like children, place
Gay Titles on each other) *Wise men* know
 What slaves they be, how despicably base,
 And where such Attributes would better show :
 An idle body clothes a *vicious mind*,
 And what at best is purchast by the same,
 Is nothing else but stinking smoak and wind,
 Or frothy bubbles of an empty fame.
 True *Glory* none did ever purchase yet,
 Until he to be *Virtuous* did attain;
 And all their *Virtues* are but counterfeit,
 Who labour not for what they would obtain.
 And this *Impressa* doth infer no less;
 For, by the *Spade* is *Labour* here impli'de;
 The *Snake* a virtuous *Prudence* doth expresse,
 And *Glory* by the *Wreath* is typifi'de:
 For where a *virtuous Industry* is found,
 It with a *Wreath of Glory* shall be crown'd.

In the same Book, pag. 8.

The *Emblem* is a *Skeleton*, with this following descant

Why, silly man, so much admirest thou
 Thy present *Fortune*; over-valuing so
 Thy person, or the beauty of thy brow,
 And in fantastick habits clothed go?
 Why dost thou live in riotous excess,
 And boast as if the flesh immortal were?
 Why dost thou cover so, why so oppress,
 And o're thy fellow-Creatures dominere?

Behold

Behold this *Emblem*, such a one was he
 Whom this doth represent, as now thou art ;
 And such a fleshless *Rawbone* thou shalt be,
 Though yet thou seem'st to act a comelier part.
 Observe it well, and mark what ugliness
 Stares through the *sightless eye-holes* from within;
 Note those lean *Craggs*, and with what gafliness
 That horrid countenance doth seem to grin.
 Well heed it; and when thou hast seen the same,
 Pluck down that *Pride* which puffs thee now so high.
 Boast not of shape or features, but (for shame)
 Repent of all thy former Vanity;
 And, having learn'd that all men must become
 Such bare *Anatomies* (that such a Fate
 No mortal *Pow'r* or *Wit* can guard thee from)
 Live so, that *Death* may better thy Estate.
 Consider who created thee, and why;
 Rowse up thy *Spirit*, ere thy *flesh* decays,
 Pursue things *honest*, with true *Piety*,
 And seek thy welfare in thy *Makers* praise :
 So when of life and form *death* shall deprive thee,
 Life with *Eternal Glory* GOD will give thee.

In the same Book, pag. 11.

The Figure of one rowling a Stone up a steep Hill.

A Massie *Milstone*, up a tedious Hill,
 With endless labour *Sisyphus* doth rowle,
 And down (when rais'd aloft) it tumbleth still,
 To keep employed his afflicted soul.
 On him this toyle is feign'd to be impos'd,
 To be (though vain) perpetually assay'd;
 But, some there be, by no such streight enclos'd,
 Who on *themselves* as endless tasks have laid:

Yea, knowing not (or without care to know)
How they are worne and waried out in vain.
They plunge themselves into a world of Wo,
To seek *uncertain ease*, in *certain pain*.

Such fools are they, who dream they shall acquire
A *mind content*, by scrabbling still for more;
For *wealth* encreasing, doth encrease *desire*,
And makes less contentation then before.
Such also they who their endeavour stretch
To climb by *Titles* to true *Honours* height;
For having gotten one *Ambitions reach*
Another, comes perpetually in sight.
And their stupidity is nothing less,
Who fancy, *flesh and blood* may raised be
Unto the top of perfect Holiness:
For at the best, corrupt and vile are we.

Yet, we are bound in *Faith*, with *love* and *hope*,
To rowle the *stone of good endeavour* still,
As near as may be, to *perfections* top,
Though back again, it tumbles down the hill.

For then what *workes* had never power to do,
GOD by his *Grace* will freely bring us to.

In the same Book, p. 13.

A man in a Boat with Sails and Oars.

No wonder he a prosperous Voyage finds,
Who hath both *Sails* and *Oars* to serve his turn,
And still assisted with propitious *Winds*,
Is to his wished *Harbour* timely born.
Nor is it very strange, if they who lack
Those *helps* on which the *Common Faith* depends,
And from their hop'd for Aims repelled back,
And miss of that to which their labour tends.

Not

Not in the *Ships*, the *Winds*, the *Oars* or *Sails*,
(Nor in the want of *outward means*) alone,
Consists it, that our hope *succeeds* or *fails*,
But most in that which men least think upon.

Some well endeavour, and their pains are blest
With *Gales* that are so prosperous, that they
Flye safe and swiftly on among the best,
Whilst others toyle hard, and are cast away.
Some long time on this Worlds wide *Ocean* floor,
And, seldom *Winds* or *Tides* assistance have;
Nor *Sail*, nor *Oar*, nor *Anchor*, nor *sound Boat*
Enjoying, neither skill themselves to save;
And yet escape. Some other too there are,
Who neither want *fit means*, nor do neglect
Good Industry, nor are without *due care*,
Or *active skill*, yet find small good effect.

However, let still thy *Intent* be just,
Then add what means thou canst to compass it;
And, though *means fails*, admit of no distrust,
But fearlessly to GOD thy wayes commit.

For he, where *Faith* and *Honesty* he finds,
Turns *loss* to *gain*, and *storms* to prosperous *winds*.

In the Fourth Book, p. 257.

The Figure is an *Hour-Glass*, and the *Sand*
almost run out.

This *Glass* declares how *Time* doth pass away,
And if th' annexed *Motto* truth doth say,
The *Time that's gone, is lost*. This to be true,
Experince too doth manifestly shew.
How fast their time departs, they least perceive,
From whom it steals before they take their leave

Of what they love; and their *last hour* is run
Before they do suppose it is begun.

Therefore, how fast it slide, let them be taught
Hereby, who foolishly put out of thought
Their *latter end*, or alwayes do presume,
Or overlargely hope on *time to come* :
The *present hours* nor thankfully enjoying,
Nor prudently or honestly employing.
Else these will peradventure too late find,
When better understanding brings to mind
How foolishly they hitherto have spent
Time past, that 'tis not to their detriment
Lost onely, but which is much worse then so,
Lost with a thousand other losses too:
Which to redeem, nor *Wit*, nor *Wealth*, nor *Pow'r* .
Can purchase them *one minute of an hour*.

Consider this, all ye that spend the *prime*,
The *Moon-tides*, and the *Tw lights* of your *Time*,
In *Play-games*, or inquest of *needlest things*,
As if ye could at pleasure nip *Times wings*,
Or turn his *Glass*, or had a *Life* or twain
To *live*, when you had fool'd this out in vain.

Short is the *present*, *lost times* passed be,
And *Time to come* you are not sure to see.

It would make this *Review* too long to be called a
Breviate, if it should be enlarged with any more of
these *Emblems*, and it may be hoped these few gleaned
out of them, will suffice to make that heeded
which is *precautioned* and *predicted* in those *Four*
Books; and that some also who did read them heretofore
either *negligently*, or in *sport* onely, will peruse
them to better purpose.

An Interjection, occasioned by a sudden Ejaculation, whilst this Review of Neglected Remembrances was transcribing; which shall here stand inserted, thought it be no part of what was heretofore expressed, or intended to be hereunto added.

ALAS! in this Review, to what good end
 My words, my time and labour thus to spend
 Am I enforc'd? Why am I troublesome
 To others and my self, of things to come
 Or past, still to make mention? since I see
 Not Judgments, whereof sensible men be
 (From day to day) nor Mercies, which betwixt
 Those Judgments intervene, or intermixt,
 Much heeded are? although they such have been,
 As are not in one Age or Place oft seen.

Oh Times! Oh Manners! how far wil these Nations
 Proceed at last in their Prevarications,
 If GOD thereto a bounder shall not set,
 And they seek him no more then they do yet?
 Our Posture at this present is the same
 With Isr'els when they forth from Egypt came.
 Two Mountains on both sides of them they had,
 O're which no Pass in safety could be made;
 Before them was a Sea, where ship or Boat
 To waft them over, could not then be got.
 Behind them, Pharoah with a dreadful Host
 Pursu'de them, to recover what was lost,
 And to reduce them to that servile state,
 Which they were hopeful had been out of date;

Or

Or to destroy them quite, where did appear
No likely hope of a *Deliverer* :
For means of safety they could none espye,
Within the prospect of a *carnal eye*.

They, thus affrighted, to the *LORD* then cri'de,
Not as they should, who do in him confi'de ;
But with more *fear* then *faith* ; nay, worse then so,
They murmur'd, and upbraided *Moses* too,
In an uncivil and ingrateful mode,
As if without a warranty from *GOD*
He had imprudently pursu'd a course
Which they *foresaw*, and told him would make worse
Their bad *Condition* ; yea, exprest a will,
Slaves (as they had been) to continue still.

Yet he (the meekest person who then liv'd)
As if he neither at that time perceiv'd
How him they injur'd, or how justly they
Deserv'd what seemed probable that day,
(Or how much base, unmanly *slavishness*
Their own tongues did apparently exprest)
He wav'd their *murmurs*, whilst they were afraid,
As if nought had amiss by them been said:
And, like a loving *Father*, speaking to
His *Children*, (knowing not when they mis-do)
Said gently thus : *Fear not, stand still and see*
With patience, how ye shall del.ver'd be :
For these *Egyptians* who are now before
Your eyes this day, shall never fright you more :
And so besel it, for next morn they saw
Their foes ly'e dead, of whom they stood in awe,
Drown'd by the waves, and on that *Sea-shore* cast,
Through which they dry-shod, and in safety past.
Yet both that, with those *Merci's* which before
GOD had vouchsaf'd (with very many more

Soon

Soon after) seemed to be so forgot,
As if they *them*, or *him* regarded not.

Now at this present time such is our case,
We are beleaguer'd as that *People* was ;
With hazards upon every side confin'de;
With dangers both before us, and behind;
Not onely having many *Foreign Foes*,
But some likewise at *home* as bad as those;
And, worse *within us* also, who have brought us
To greater *streights* then all our Foes *without us*.
Those *Jews* we parallel in ev'ry thing ,
Who injur'd *Moses* by their murmuring :
And, are as thankless unto GOD, who hath
Here acted, both in *Mercy* and in *Wrath*,
As many *Wonders* as by him were shown
In *Egypt* when King *Pharoh* was o'rethrown;
(Though they appear not such unto their sence,
Who shut the eyes of their *Intelligence*)
We as distrustful are as they, as giddy
In ev'ry *Trial* too; we are as ready
To make a *Golden Calf*, and to prefer
That *Idol* before our *Deliverer*.
As much as they, we long to repofsess
The *Flesh-pots* of our *Lusts*, our *Slavishness*,
(Which we did cry to be deliver'd from)
As soon as into any *streight* we come.

Yet, GOD hath been to us (and at this time)
Continues the same GOD he was to them.
Though their *example*, which should make us better,
Hath made our *Provocations* much the greater,
He with us dealeth, as a *Father* mild,
Whose heart is grieved by a toward *Chill*;
And, as he did with stubborn *Ephraim*
When *Anger* and *Compassion* moved him

To cry out thus, *What shall I do to thee?*
 For at a stand with us he seems to be,
 Both by his frequently himself estranging,
 And by his oft returning, and oft changing
 His *Judgments* and his *Mercies*, that we may
 Be changed, and reform our *crooked way*.

We have this day (though in another mode)
 The daily *Presence* of our gracious GOD
 To lead us through that *Wilderness of Sin*
 In which we have a long time wandring been:
 He guides, guards, and provideth us Supplies
 In all our wants, (though in another wise)
 And is with us as wonderfully here,
 As when his *People* brought from *Egypt* were.
 The self-same *Cloud* and *Pillar* we have had,
 (Though varied) and, as effectual made
 To all intents and purposes, as they
 Then had; and to refresh us in the way
 Unto the *Land of Rest*, we have that *Rock*
 Whereof they drank, unto that purpose broke:
 And, though we oft stray, shall to what we tend
 Attain, when we are at our Journeys end;
 If we *believe*, and *persevere to do*
 So much as GOD enableth us unto.
 For, he requireth not from any one
 A scruple more then may by him be done;
 Nor doth expect from any to receive
 More then what he at first, or last shall give;
 Because of all *omissions* and *mis-actions*,
 He hath in full accepted satisfactions
 By his *Deservings*, who secure us may
 From whatsoever *Debts* we cannot pay;
 If on his *Mediation* we depend,
 With *Faith* and *Penitence* at our lives end;

That

That *Mark* retaining, which distinguisheth
Christs chosen *Sheep* from *Goats*, in *Life* and *Death*;
 To wit, that love to *him*, and to each other,
 Which knits for ever, *GOD* and *Man* together.

This is that *everlasting Gospel* which
 We were foretold, an *Angel* was to preach
 To ev'ry *Kindred*, *People*, *Tongue* and *Nation*
 Throughout the earth to bring men to *Salvation* :
 And, for a *preparation* thereunto,
 He cry'd aloud, (as all true *Prophets* do)
Fear God; to *Him*, and to the *Lamb* give praise,
 For now the hour is come, (these are the dayes)
 Wherein his *Judgments* must be pour'd on them
 Who shall not glorifie and worship him
 By whom *Heaven*, *Earth*, the *Fountains* & the *Seas*
 Created were, and ev'ry thing in these.

The *fear of God* is that which first lets in
 True *Wisdom*; that brings *Penitence* for *sin*:
 By these within the heart of man is wrought
 Such *Faith* and *Grace*, that they then taking root,
 Do seasonably bring forth such blessed fruit,
 As by degrees destroys the *thorns* and *weeds*
 Which either choak or starve the *holy Seeds*,
 From whence the means of those enjoyments springs
 Whereof to us that *Gospel* tydings brings.

This *method* long ago was practis'd
 By *John* the *Baptist*, when he ushered
Christ and his *Everlasting Gospel* in,
 By preaching of true *penitence* for *sin* :
 And thereby did prepare before his face,
 The way intended, to *soul-saving Grace*.

Such *Consequents*, as promis'd are to spring
 From *Chr'st* and his *apostles* publishing

This *Gospel* (whether it shall come abroad
 As preached in the *ordinary mode*,
 Or by the *Holy Ghost*, which oft conveighs
 The same by *extraordinary wayes*)
 Are without fail to them vouchsaf'd for ever,
 Who entertaine it ; and shall still endeavour
 Conformity, sincerely, that to do
 Which *Grace* and *Nature* them inables to.
 But *everlastingly* it shall not be
 Preacht in this World : For this believe must we,
 That his *Commission*, who Authorized
 Those men, by whom it was first published,
 Is nigh expir'd ; and that it shall not last
 One minute longer, when that *date* is past ;
 Which will be in that *Moment* wherein all
 Shall *die*, or changed be ; but sooner shall
 Be so to them, who summon'd are away
 By *Death*, before that *Grand Assizes day*.

If it be so, let us take timely heed
 What *Doctrine* thence, doth by result proceed :
 For *Christ himself*, is he who did predict
 The *Judgments* which we both feel and expect.
 He is that *Angel* in a *Mystery*,
 Who through the midst of the Heavens did flye.
 Twas he, whom 'twixt the *Heavens* of the *Law*
 And *Gospel* many *Prophets* flying saw,
 To bring the *News* and *Means* to every *Nation*
 Of Peace on Earth, by reconciliation
 'Twixt *GOD* and *Man*. We have already seen,
 Some of those *Tokens*, which foretold have been,
 To signifie to us the *General Doom*,
 That should soon after their appearance come ;

And

And should they be commemorated here,
It very evidently would appear,
That hitherward it speedily advances
To them who heed well the known Circumstances
In GOD's and *humane Actings*. He hath pour'd
The Vio's forth, whereby some are devour'd,
And some tormented ; yet, most men grow more
Blasphemous, and more wicked then before.
And had we no *sign* else to predeclare
The sounding of the *Seventh Trump*, is near,
Save *that*, and those *Divisions*, which of late
Republicks, *Realms*, and *Persons* separate
From *others*, and *themselves* ; we need not shew
Another Symptome of what will ensue.

To hasten such *Dooms* (among other *Crimes*
Which are predominant in these our times)
One I have seen reiterated here
With impudence in publick ev'ry year,
Which will not go unpunish'd, though the *Nation*
Hath entertain'd it with much veneration :
But I have yet no warrant to declare it,
And therefore till I have so, will forbear it.

With these, there is likewise one *special Sign*
Concurrent, mention'd in *Records Divine*,
(Not least considerable) 'tis a defection
By wanting of that *Natural affection*
Which constitutes the *Manhood*; for that *sin*
Doth to be *Epidemical* begin;
Yea, ev'n the natural Act of Generation,
Which ~~was~~ ordained for our preservation,
So is corrupted into an excess
Of brutish *Lustings*, beyond beastliness,
And *filthiness*, grown up to such a height,
That many in their *sins* take less delight

Except

Except they lawlessly be carried on,
 And shall be likewise impudently done.
 To which end, ev'n our honest *Recreations*
 Are lately scandalized by these *Nations*,
 And oft abused; yea, the *Tunes* and *Songs*
 Which to a sober merriment belongs,
 Are so estranged now from what they were
 In former times, (and within Sixty year)
 That in my apprehension there doth seem
 So vast a difference betwixt *these* and *them*,
 As 'twixt the croakings of a *Ravens* throat,
 And *Linnetts*, or a *Nightingales* clear note.
 Which unto me appeareth to portend
 Our *pleasant things* are drawing to an end;
 And, that our *sins*, and their deserved *doom*
 Are now almost to their last period come.

One *Sign* more I will add unto those many
 Foremention'd, which as *signal* is as any:
 Some of the true *Christ* do begin to doubt,
 And where to find another, hunt about;
 Not wanting such as will be undertaking
 To bring them unto one of their own making.
 Thus much, as I believe, his words implies,
 Who said false *Christs* and *Prophets* should arise
 In latter times; for I have in my days
 Seen that to be fulfilled many ways.
 The greatest number *Christians* now profess,
 Send one another unto *Antichrist*,
 And say that's he: In *Turky* at this day,
 He is expected, (as reports do say.)
 And many last year were in expectation
 To hear thereof, ere now, a confirmation.
 And I, because I credit not that *Fame*,
 A man of little *Faith* reputed am.

Some

Some confidently tell us he is *here*,
To wit, in this *Church* whereof now we are;
And, so I hope, although it may be thought
We have not entertain'd him as we ought,
Nor are so charitable unto them,
Who conscientiously do *worship him*.

Some say, he's *there*, in such or such a place
Wherein a *secret Meeting is*, or *was*;
Some other send men to the *Wilderness*,
Affirming he is there; perhaps by this
Intruding, that he by the *Humane Creature*,
May found be in his own *wild untild Nature*:
But this believe not, for till thither he
Comes of *himself*, found there he cannot be,
Nor any where, save where that *Love* resides
Which doth expel that *self-love* which divides
His *Flocks*, and causeth men no care to take
Those breaches to repair, which *Pride* doth make.
Not many take into consideration
How to improve aright this *Visitation*;
They do both *good* and *evil* things mis-name,
The *wicked* they acquit, the *righteous* blame;
Their *Interests* sometimes confound together,
To th'one sometimes apply what's due to th'other;
And, as the *Jews* (their type) did justify
Themselves in acting that *Impiety*
For which they are corrected; we begin
To say, like them, the troubles we are in,
And loss of all the good things now bereft,
Befall us onely because we had left
Such *Idolizings*, as when *Spice-Cakes* given
For an Oblation to the *Queen of Heaven*,
By them omitted were. Such thoughts have we
Of *GOD*, and of those *Judgments* which now be
On

On us inflicted; yea, their parallel
We are in all, wherein they did not well.

I am not able to enumerate

The many wayes whereby we separate
From one another; nor dare say how few
Go *right*, if there be but *one way that's true*.
Nor know how to be safe, unless there were
As well a preaching to the *heart*, as *ear* :
For, most what now proceeding from the *mouth*
Is, only counter-pleadings between *Truth*
And *error*; which both sides, to fortifie
With so much confidency do applie
The *words* or *meanings* of Gods *holy writ*,
That, had we no way to ascertain it
But these, or those mens, or my *yea* or *no*,
None could know what they should *believe* or *do*.
For, as well *Supream Powers* as *private men*
Are *Patrons* of gross errors now and then;
And by *Authority* that is supprest
Which was by like *Authority* profest.
With ev'ry *windy Doctrine* flur'd about,
Some are not half so zealously devout
And resolute professors of what's *true*,
As of what is *Heretical* and *New* :
And others oldest and *sound Truths* condemn,
Because they are but *Novelties* to them.

Some term all those *Phanaticks* who dissent
From them in *Judgment*, although innocent.
Some call them *Saints* and *Martyrs*, who by some
Are judg'd the cause of all the *Plagues* now come.
The *Romanists*, unto our *Separation*
From them, ascribe this present *Visitation*.
Some others say, it is our toleration
Of their *Idolatries*, which plagues this Nation.

Some

Some to entrenching on mens *Consciences*
 Impute it. Some to our tolerating these.
 Some to expelling of the *Hi'rarchy* :
 Some to suppressing the *Presbytery*.
 Some to *Rebellious* actings against *Kings*;
 Some other unto quite *contrary things*.
 And the result of all summ'd up together,
 Is *this*, Each *shifts his guilt off to another*.
 But, GOD before the *Round* hath wheel'd about,
 Will find the *principal Offenders* out,
 Either while *time* runs on, or, when he shall
 To *universal Judgment* summon all.

That which should have *two feet* to stand upon,
 We cripple, by allowing it but *one* :
 Some zealous are for *Temples* built with stones;
 Some for those spiritualiz'd in *flesh and bones*.
 Some are for *Conquests* by the *temp'ral Sword* ;
 Some to be Victors by the *Two-edg'd Word*.
 Some look for *Christ* in that *Jerusalem*
 Which was in *Palestine*; and some for him
 (In that *Jerusalem* which doth descend
 From Heaven) do in *Faith* and *Hope* attend :
 And, too too often also, they who be
 At *union* in their *Judgments*, disagree
 So long (for *By-ends*) timely to improve
 Their *knowledg, faith* and *works*, by *Christian Love*,
 That in all, whereby they to merit thought,
 Their Labour's lost, and all for which they wrought.

Delusions now so many are, and such
 In these last times, that they endanger much
 Ev'n GOD's *Elect*; and do presignifie
 The day of *Vengeance* is approaching nigh:
 And partly seems to be characted
 By what the best men *hope*, and worst men *dread*.

Q

However

Some

However, let no soul despair that hath
 Sad apprehensions of the day of *Wrath*;
 By this, or what in my *Review* you find
 Conditionally predicted, to remind
 What was neglected; for, among us here
Christ's everlasting *Gospel* to our ear
 Is preached yet; and, not yet is the day
 Of *Reconcilement* passed quite away.
 Come, let us therefore, ere it shall grow dark,
 To scape the *Storm* and *Fire*, flye to th' *Ark*
 Which hath been slighted; there is yet a place
 For *Mercy*, and an open door for *Grace*.
 When *Penitence* brings *Reformation* in,
 It makes a *Blessing*, what a *Plague* had been:
 Yea, then 'twill to her *future weal* be turn'd,
 That this great *City* was to ashes burn'd:
 She *Phoenix-like*, shall gloriously arise
 Out of that Rubbish wherein now she lies;
 And I, which now am disrespected here,
 Shall have a *Monument* erected there.
 GOD all advantages to save us, takes,
 Forfaketh none, till *him* he first forfakes;
 Made not *one man* (though some so please to say)
 To be a *sinner* or a *cast-away*:
 But all in *love*, that *they* might be by *him*
 Possessed with delight, and *he* by *them*.
 For, when the *sin* of *one* had all destroy'd,
 That his *Love* should not thereby be made void,
 He to redeem them gave his *only Son*,
 Who ransom'd all again, excepting none.
 Still by his actings in the *dispensation*
 Of *Judgments* and of *Mercies* to this Nation,
 (Ev'n by the late *Plague* of *devouring fire*)
 He manifests, that he doth not desire

Our *total Ruine* ; but, takes all occasions
 Allow'd by *Justice*, for our preservations :
 And though our *sins* as red as *Scarlet* show,
 He can and will make us as white as *snow*,
 If we repent them ; or, if we but would
 Endeavour it so far forth as we could :
 For, he in sinners deaths takes no delight,
 Or, any without cause to grieve or smite :
 But in *pure love* dispenseth his correction,
 To bring our *happiness* unto perfection.

This is my *Creed*, which should I not confess
 To glorifie GOD's *Love* and *Righteousness*,
 (When by occasions thereto mov'd I am,
 That others may likewise believe the same)
 I merited to be shut out from those
 To whom GOD *everlasting Mercy* shows :
 For, could we see, or apprehend how near
 He standeth, when far off he doth appear,
 Co-operating *for* , and *with us* too,
 (In that which for our selves we cannot do)
 We would more *love* then *fear him* (though his blows
 Are very sharp) since *intents* by those,
 Is hammering the *self-love* of the *Creature*
 Into the *Will* and *Temper* of his *Nature*,
 To make true *Union*, which till then, will be
 Impossible; for, nothing can agree
 With ought so perfectly as to unite,
 When diametrically opposite,
 As those two *Natures* be; because the other
 Th'one would destroy, if till then knit together.

Repine not therefore, at what GOD shall do,
 What ere it be, but willingly thereto
 Submit your selves, and heartily repent
 Your *Provocations*. Let us all lament,

Not thereto frighted by a slavish fear
 (Of *Judgments* which now felt or threatned are
 By this *Review*) but in pure love to him
 Whose *Mercy* saves, when *Justice* might condemn;
 And persevereth to redintegrate
 By *Love*, ev'n those who persever'd in *Hate*.
 Do thus, and then the *Judgments* which in part
 Now executing are, GOD will divert.
Repent what you have done, and he will too
 Repent of what he threatned hath to do.
 For such *Repentance* well consists with that
Immutability which doth relate
 Unto the *Deity*; and will accord
 With Attributes ascribed in his *Word*.
 Yea, though from my *Predictions* you scapefree,
 I shall then counted a *true Prophet* be;
 And this my *Interjection* will appear
 Not so improperly inserted here,
 As I my self suppos'd, when 'twas begun,
 It would appear to many, being done:
 For, till I had compos'd what here is pen'd,
 I knew not all whereto it might extend,
 Nor know I yet: and therefore I do leave it
 To such effects as GOD shall please to give it.
 But how my *soul*! how came it so to pass,
 That this *Ejaculation*, with *Alas*,
 (And with *sad Musings*) was begun at first?
 Since thou dost know, that when things are at worst,
 GOD then comes in, and often doth repair
 Our *Breaches*, when brought near unto despair?
 The *old* delay'd a while, he brings at length,
 (Ev'n when we have no likely means, or strength
 To help ourselves) why then shouldst thou be sad,
 Who frequently experiments hast had

That

That *Mercy* hath to thee been more then doubled,
 When others thought thee most extreamly troubled
 Thou wert vouchsaf'd the greatest inward *Rest*,
 When in thy *Body* thou seem'dst most oppress'd;
 And to be kept unharmed in the *flame*,
 Is more then preservation from the same.

Then what thou hast perswaded others to,
 Continue (as thou hast profess'd) to do:
 In what GOD's glory may advance, persevere;
 Depend on him; be pleas'd with whatsoever
 He either shall permit, or hath decreed,
 And to discharge thy *Conscience* still proceed,
 Not fearing that thy *labour* or thy *cost*
 In doing of thy *Duty*, will be lost:
 For fully recompens'd thy pains would be,
 Though thou shouldst edifie but *two* or *three*.

The *World*, the *Devil*, yea mine own *flesh* too
 (Offended much with what I *say* or *do*)
 Conspire together, and Confederates be
 Both to *discourage* and *disparage* me;
 Pretending they have somewhat to produce,
 To prove me blamable without excuse:
 (And may destroy me, if nought intervene,
 To bar the prosecuting what they mean)
 Yet I defy them both to *act* and *say*
 The worst they either would effect, or may;
 For, though they find me many grains too light,
 I have a *white Stone* that will make up weight,
 And such a *Friend* as hath on me bestown
 A *Righteousness* more perfect then mine own.
 He cheers me with assurance that he will
 To me what he hath been, continue still;
 By GOD's *free-gift* this *hope*, this *faith* I have,
 And they will send me *safe* beyond my *Grave*.

VATICINIUM CAUSUALE,

Imprinted 1655.

THis being compos'd upon a special Occasion, whilst *Oliver Cromwel* was in Power, the following *Prediction* was therein expressed, pag. 12.

And now great *Oliver*, to thee likewise
 Let this be known, and do thou not despise
 The *Publisher*. GOD doth expect to have
Honour from him to whom he *honour* gave:
 That such as bear *Rule* over men be just,
 That they their *Vows* infringe not, nor his *Trust*:
 That they consider he bestows large Measure
 Of *Pow'r* upon them, not to act their *pleasure*,
 Or to fulfil their *Lusts*; but doth enlarge
 His Bountie, that their *Place* they may discharge
 With *Courage*: That he *Riches* doth provide,
 Lest *Avarice* might draw their hearts aside,
 Or *wants*, to do *Injustice* them compel:
 That he gives *Honour*, not to make them swell
 Above their *Brethren*, but them to exempt
 From what may mis-befall them by *contempt*.
 And, that all these things are on them bestow'd
 Much more for *others sakes*, then for *their own*.

Know, Sir, that GOD, from *persons* in your *Place*
 Expects all this, and to that end gives *Grace*
 And *Pow'r* for asking; and what ere some say,
 That he no man compels to go astray,

Nor

Nor leaves nor hardens any (not the worst)
Till love to *selfness* makes them leave him first.

If this, thou well considering, shalt act
Accordingly, performing thy *Contract*
With GOD, and with his *People*, he shall then
Give thee the loves and hearts of all *good men*:
Fix thee as firmly as the *Rocky shores*,
Which slight the *Ocean* when it foams and roars.
Thy Name shall spread and glorifie much more
Then all thy *Predecessors* heretofore.

Yea, in *Fame's* Book thou maist enrolled be,
The first who made this *People* truly free;
Be *First-born* of those *Vice-Roys* who shall take
Their Thrones from Him, whose Kingdom down
All *Monarchies* of *Tyrants*, with all those (wil break
Who help patch up the *Clay and Iron Toes*,
The Reliques of that *Image* which hath been
The Prop of him that's call'd the *Man of Sin*.
All this may be, and if thou strive to go
The way that open lies, it shall be so.
Oh! lose not this advantage for a *Bubble*,
Which in *vain hope* begins, and ends in *trouble*.

And lastly, be it known, not by event
(Which may be to thy future detriment)
But by *Precaution*, that if fail thou shalt
(Without this *Peoples* obstinate default)
Of what they justly from thee may expect,
(Who art advanc'd their *Freedom* to protect)
Or, shalt abuse thy *Pow'r* them to oppress;
Or, leave them unreliev'd in their distress,
So that they shall be forc'd to cry and call
To GOD for aid; he *hear* and *help* them shall,
Search what's *misdone*, and (though their former *sin*
Hath great and full of *Provocations* been)

He,

He, for the present time, will pass it by,
 And on thy failings onely cast an eye,
 Avenge their *Cause*, call thee account to give
 Of all those favours which thou didst receive,
 Of that late *Mercy* too, among the rest,
 (Which did occasion what is here exprest)
 And with much *indignation* cast thee down,
 When to its *height* thy *confidence* is grown.

There were several *Addresses* made to *Oliver Cromwel*, and his Son *Richard*, by this *Author*, whilst they exercised the *Supream Power*, amounting to above Two *Quires* of Paper; in which were many *Seasonable Precautions* and *Remembrances* to them rendred with a sober boldness; as also many *Predictions* of what would succeed, if they neglected what was thereby *precautioned*, which are now observed to have been verified: But these being delivered (sealed up) into their own hands, and not imprinted, are all omitted in this *Review*.

Verfes

By Pen

Verses to the King's Majesty :

*Written immediately after His Restauration,
and imprinted Anno 1662.*

IN the sixth page, the Author thus proceeds with what he had begun.

I had presum'd a *personal Address*
Long since; but difficult is an Access
For such as I appear, who hazard blame
And disrespect enough, where I now am,
Because that which to do, my *Conscience* calls,
Is by some numbred among *Criminals*.
In that regard this *Paper* must make way
For gaining an admittance, as it may,
And will perhaps presented be by some
Who shall have entrance where I must not come.

I cannot write *strong lines* with swelling words,
Whose *Elegancy* scarcely room affords
For *sober sence*; nor muster up their *Names*
Whom *History*, or whom *Tradition* fames
For brav'st *Achievements* since time first begun,
And then say, *You have all of them outgone*;
And think my foolish *Words* may add unto
Your honour, more then your own *Deeds* can do,
Or, that there's any *wise man* who gives *Creed*
To what they in a flat'ring *Poem* read.

It it is not in the Pow'r of any other
By *Pen* or *Tongue* to clear up, or to smother

R

Your

Your true *Deserts*; for in Your *Self* that lies,
 Which either them *be-clouds* or *Dignifies*.
 No other thoughts I entertain of You,
 But such as I may *think*, and you *allow*.
 Yet to extol Your Worth, I shall not dare,
 Till I know truly what Your *Virtues* are.
 For though to *Flat'ers*, all *Kings* seem to be
 Of like Desert; they seem not so to me.
 I'll serve You faithfully in what I may,
 And You, as *King*, love, honour and obey:
 I would conceal, not publish Your Defects
 If I knew any; and give due respects
 To all Your *Merits*; but I will not own
One Line that praises them, till they are known.
 For, till I know I give but what is due,
 I am a *Liar*, though my words *be true*.
 Since equally both *good* and *evil things*,
 Are famed of the best and worst of *Kings*.

A *stranger* likewise, You have been long time
 To most of Your own *Subjects* in this *Ctime*;
 And, I was never where I did behold
 Your face, since you were two or three years old;
 What good soever therefore I aver
 Of You, I shall but seem a *Flatterer*:
 Yea, You Your *Self* would think so, should I add
 Those *Virtues* which You know You never had;
 And, *Praise* which is ascrib'd to any one
 In that *mode*, is a little less than none.
 But little credit also hath a *Poet*,
 To celebrate Your Worth when he shall know it,
 Or counterpoise or silence *Contradictions*,
 Since most esteem his Writings to be *Fictions*.
 And You would have more honor then from them
 By these *blunt Lines*, if they had Your esteem.

I therefore so shall study to encrease
 Your *Honour*, that I may not make it less;
 And, whatsoever I can say or do,
 (Although You give a *Countermand* thereto)
 I'll say and do it, when I shall be sure
 Your *Life*, or *Peace*, or *Honour* 'twill secure:
 And if this be a fault, I do intend
 To be thus faulty till my life shall end.

I know well, *Royal Sir*, who 'tis that says,
To please great men, deserves not meanest praise,
 I see how 'tis approv'd, and what they gain,
 Who can that thriving *Faculty* attain;
 Yet I shall wave that *Art*, and will assay
 To do You honour in another way,
 By giving You *occasions* to express
 Your *Justice*, *Mercy*, and Your *Prudentness*,
 That You Your Self may make the World to see
 Your *Virtues* more, then *words* can say they be.
 To that end much might in my *Case* be shown,
 But rather for *Your sake*, then for *mine own*,
 Is this *Address*; yea, rather to prevent
 What may be Your *Harm*, then my *Detriment*:
 I'll therefore wave that too, that no *self-end*
 May frustrate what I chiefly do intend, &c.

Page 20, it thus follows.

—lest my good intent
 To You, some future *Casualties* prevent,
 I will so far forth as my *Chain* doth stretch,
 (And my own shortned Arm and Hand will reach)
 Exhibit such *Expedients*, as from time,
 And other *Herbs*, I've suckt within our *Clime*,
 And wanting better Gifts, will offer You
 This little Cluster of those Grapes which grew

Upon my *Wither'd Vine*; for though they are
But sow'r, Your *Kingdom* yeelds none wholsomer,
If you shall seasonably press out the Juice,
And then assume it without prejudice.

This *Time* is Critical, the *wayes* be rough,
And many of those *Chariot Wheels* flye off,
By which Your *Marches* expedited seem'd;
And, lost *Advantages* must be redeem'd,
Lest when You think that they are come to hand,
Your main *Expectances* are at a stand,
Or put so far back, that You may survive
Your *hopes*, and Your own *happines*s outlive.
I wish it otherwise, and know it may
Be as I wish, if you the means assay,
Not giving ear to those who will withstand
Your good, and that which GOD hath now in hand.
I have discharg'd my *Conscience*, and so shall,
What ever for so doing doth befall;
And hope that will not wholly be despis'd,
Which now shall be in faithfulness advis'd.

To those men do not over-much adhere,
Who think all *wisdom* lies within their *Sphere*.
For *Honours*, *Riches*, and *Self-Interest*,
Have made *wise men* as brutish as a *Beast*.
Heed other while, what *Common Fame* doth say,
As well as what Your *Courtiers* whisper may;
Lest You be ignorant of many things
Whose cognizance is pertinent to *Kings*.
Make no man Your *Chief Confident*, but he
That is discreet and honest fam'd to be;
Lest he deceives Your *Trust*, and in the close,
Destroys Your *old Friends*, and begets *new Foes*.
Let *Justice* be your *Scepter*; and Your *Crown*
Be *Mercy*, and if You would keep Your own,

Give

Give that to others which to them belongs,
And free the poor and fatherless from wrongs;
Especially Your main Endeavours bend
To make & keep Your *Sovereign Lord* Your Friend;
And if You would be settled on Your *Throne*,
Take care that His Usurped be by none.
Enjoy Your *Conscience*, whatsoe'er it be,
So other men may have their *Conscience* free;
And hang me for a Traitor, if hereby
You then enjoy not more Security
Then what Your strength by *Land & Sea* now gives,
And all that *Humane Policy* contrives,
Let *Truth* and *Error* fight it out together,
Whilst *Civil Peace* disturbed is by neither;
Which may be so provided for, that none
Shall justly be displeas'd with what is done;
Nor You thenceforward be (for evermore)
Disturbed, as You have been heretofore.

If You neglect this, and I disobey,
'Twill be with much grief, and no other way
But onely *passively*; and whatsoever
I suffer, will Your *Welfare* still endeavour
To be of this mind, thousands I believe,
Whom You to favour do not yet receive;
And whilst they are *excluded* (though in peace
They live) suspicions daily will encrease,
By which You may have *trouble*, and they *blame*,
Who shall be no way guilty of the same.

Your taking timely opportunities
Now offer'd (from what yet before You lies)
May render You a blessed *Instrument*
In making smooth way to that *Government*
Which *Tyrants* and *ungodly men* most fear,
You and Your subjects mutually endear,

More

More glorious make Your *Temporary Throne*,
 Then ever *English King* yet sate upon;
 And Your *Name* to be terrible to those
 Who to *Christ's Kingdom* shall continue Foes.
 Herein I've spoke according to my Creed,
 Wishing my just hopes may thereon succeed;
 And, that upon Your heart it may work more
 Than what I've spoke to others heretofore.

But, GOD's time is at hand, within his Pow'r
 Are all mens *wayes*, yea both Your *heart* and *our*;
 And I will patiently submit unto
 What either *he* or *you* shall please to do;
 Not asking (whatsoever I seem to want)
 Ought more than You spontaneously shall grant;
 For what I may expect, if You deny,
 So far as need shall be, GOD will supply.
 The *Liberty* I covet to enjoy,
 Is that which no man living can destroy.
 The *Wealth* I aim at, is nor less nor more
 But to be *well contented*, rich or poor;
 And if I had a will my *Wits* to strain,
 That I to *Earthly Honours* might attain,
 I should to no such *Vulgar Heights* aspire,
 As now are *Objects* of most mens desire;
 Or to a *style* of so mean Consequence
 As is an *Earl*, a *Marquess*, *Duke* or *Prince*;
 Or to be call'd Your *Cousin*. For, no less
 Would satisfy my large *Ambitiousness*,
 But such a Dignity as did commend
 His Loyalty, whom *David* called Friend;
 And means enough to make a Parallel
 Of ev'ry *Traitor* with *Achitophel*.
 For, then you should in very short time see
 That no man more deserves esteem'd to be
 Your *Loyal Subject*.

A THANKFUL RETRIBUTION,

Imprinted 1649.

THis was written to express the *Author's* gratitude to some few Members of *Parliament*, who without his seeking, had propounded an Expedient whereby to satisfy his just *Demands*; but being without effect, that which was neglected, is here again revived, as pertinent to consideration at this time.

Though *Wishes* are but words, *Thanks* are no more;
And my Oppressions make me not so poor,
But that I have yet *Thanks* enough to pay
For *Fifty thousand Wishes* in one day;
And I much thank you——

Page the Second.

But truly I expect not yet to see
The *World* neglect her own, to think on me;
Nor do I ought for my Advantage crave,
Whereby the *Publick* may disprofit have:
I rather wish, That what is truly known
By *Service* and by *Grant* to be mine own,
Might be confer'd, or means at least, whereby
My *Labours* might support my *Family*
Till I receiv'd my dues. For that would please
My longing more, then all those *Offices*

Which others covet, and wherein few can
At once grow rich, and be an honest man;
And, wherein (as Affairs are manag'd now)
He that would fain be *honest*, knows not how.

I value not my self so high, to set
My heart on what I am not like to get :
No, nor so low, but that (if I had wings
To reach them) I would flye at th' highest things
Your *House* could give me, or the world could show
Yet set them at a distance far below me : (me,
For, he who of *himself* esteem shall make
By those things which the *World* may give or take,
(Or he who by his *Trappings*, or his *Place*
Doth prize himself) his *Manhood* doth debase.

If I well know my heart, I seek no more
Of this Worlds *Honour*, or of her vast *store*,
Then what sufficeth to defray the Debts ,
Which *Duty* and *Necessity* now sets
Upon me ; or which may yeeld means to do
Those *Works* which God may seem to call me to,
And keep up that frail part of me which dyes
Or lives unactive, without due supplies.
Yet when I did perceive with what d disdain
Some did your friendly motion entertain,
And how they jeer'd thereat, it tempted me
To wish your *Motion* might vouchsafed be,
That I might see how mad the *Fools* would grow
With *Envy*, if they liv'd to see it so.

One said the *Place* was fitter to reward
A *Member* of your *House*; and it appear'd
Thereby to me, that he had quite forgot
(As others do) the *Self-denying Vote*.
Some seem to think, that seeing I am poor,
That ere they owe me) they should give no more
Then

Then futes my present *Fortune*; as if I
 With my *Estate* had lost my *Dignity*,
 And he had got it, who since t'other day
 Is grown *Sub-Grandee* from a *beggar-boy*,
 By such an Occupation, as hath yet
 Neither improv'd his *Honesty* or *Wit* :
 But, let these make the best of their *New Lot*,
 So mine they wrong not, I envy them not;
 And, 'tis my honour, rather than my shame,
 Now to be *poor* ; because I poor became
 Not by mine own default; and in a time
 When to be very rich, implies a crime.
 For, who with *honour* to great *Wealth* can rise,
 When all the *Land* is full of poor mens cries ?
 Or, what shame thereby him can seize upon,
 Who wants, when *Kings* and *Kingdoms* are undone?
 Or poor became, because he lent and gave
 His whole Estate the Neighbourhood to save ?
 And what at last will unto such succeed,
 Who, when they may, relieve not that mans need ?

I covet not the *Place* propos'd for me,
 (Although as capable thereof as he
 Who did possess it) for, I know too well
 Wherein that man his Neighbours must excel,
 Who hath an aim so high, except there shall
 Some extraordinary *Change* befall :
 And, me (I think) it would advance no more
 Than did that *Office* I held heretofore.
 For, in these isles I have already had
 A *Place* more honourable (though not made
 So much account of) then 'tis to supply
 The greatest Office in your *Chancery*.
 Yea, more then to possess the place of him
 Who in that *Court* is *Officer Supreme*.

S

And

And as a mark of Honour, bears about
 A *Silver Seal* in an *Embroidered Clout*.
 I have been honour'd to draw up *Records*
 For him that's *King of Kings*, and *Lord of Lords*;
 To be unto this Isle *Remembrancer*,
 And, as it were, a *Publick Register*
 To that *Supream*, High and most awful *Court*
 From whence proceeds no *Sentence*, no *Report*,
 No *Order* or *Injunction*, no *Decree*,
Edicts or *Dooms*, but such as *Righteous* be;
 And where the *Judge* will to no side be sway'd
 By *Eloquence*, or *Force*, or *brib'd*, or *pray'd*
 To be more *merciful*, or more *severe*
 Then *Justice* and true *Clemency* may bear.

Yea, although at this present heeded not
 By many, (and by others quite forgot)
 I have enroll'd, and registred to stand
 Upon Record, what *Mercies* to this Land
 Have been vouchsaf'd, what ought to have bin done
 To keep away the *Judgments* coming on :
 Shown how the *King*, and how the *People* might
 Have scap't the hands which both of them now smite:
 Foretold the *War* before it came to pass,
 Who should begin the Quarrel in this place:
 What sad *Effects* would follow; what regard
 My words would find, how they should me reward,
 With many other things, which will appear
 In those *Records*, whilst men speak *English* here:
 And thousands will in future time confess
 Those things fulfill'd which I did fore-express,
 Who shall it may be, likewise live to see,
 That GOD observes who have abused me.
 For hitherto, though I despis'd appear,
 He spares my life, upholds my *Spirit* here;

Feeds

Feeds me by his own hand, sometimes by *men*,
By *Ravens* and by *Angels* now and then:
Twice when my pow'rful Foes had by their might
Deprived me of my Subsistence quite,
He did supply my *wants* when I nor knew
Nor thought how *Oyl* or *Meal* I could renew;
Against proud *Prelates*, and corrupted *Peers*,
He did maintain about me many years
A Watchful Guard, which kept me from their Pow'r
When me they did endeavour to devour;
And from my troubles did release me too,
By *doing* what some thought would me *undo* :
Yea, when the greatest *Lyon* loudly roar'd,
And rous'd against me; when the *bloudy Sword*
Was drawn upon me; when a *Poysonous Pest*
Breaths killing Vapours; when I was oppress'd
On ev'ry side; and when I was forsook
Well nigh of all, GOD notice of me took;
Sav'd me from *spoil*, from *slaughter*, from *infection*,
And honor'd me, ev'n by his own protection.

This being so, my *Scorners* whom I hear
At your Proposal do both grudge and jeer,
Have no such cause (as their misdeemings may
Suppose they had) your *motion* to gain-say :
'Twas fear, perhaps, I might have made the Place
Henceforth less profitable then it was.
For if that *Register* shall conscience make
At ev'ry *Hearing* such true Notes to take
Of what is *Order'd*, and so careful be,
To draw up ev'ry *Sentence* and *Decree*,
As not to leave that doubtful which the *Court*
Intrusts to his discretion and report,
Ambiguous Orders would not so enlarge
The *Clients* trouble, and his needless charge,

Either by words too many, or too few,
 (Or of less weight then to the sense was due)
 New *motions* to beget, and thereupon
 New Orders, till both parties are undone.

When to prevent this, due care shall be took,
 You will not so much for *great Places* look,
 To gratifie your *Friends*; as you will then
 To execute them, seek out fitting men.
 No *place* will then be thought too good for those
 Who for your sakes have made their *friends* their *foes*
 They shall then get, at least their *own* again,
 Who hitherto have spent themselves in vain;
 And out of zeal unto the *Common Good*,
 Adventur'd *Liberty*, *Estates* and *Bloud*,
 Whilst others (by their patience, cost and sweat)
 Grow, to their *Countreys* damage, *Rich* and *Great*.
 Then they who have been innocently wise,
 Will see in what their *Wealth* and *safety* lies;
 And, then it may be, some fair *Lot* among
 My *Brethren*, will befall me *short* or *long*.

When such a *Change* I find, I shall begin
 To doubt almost, what *Climate* I am in.
 I shall not, for a good space after, take
 The boldness to profess I am awake,
 Or, that a *Reformation* in bath crept,
 Whilst I was either in the dark, or slept;
 And shall of our *distractions* hope to see
 A better end, then likely now to be.
 Then those things which we yet hear and behold
 With fear and sorrow, shall with joy be told;
 And then shall I no whit displeased grow,
 Whether I sit higher, or more low;
 Or, whether they who me should think upon,
 Give me that *Office*, or a *worse*, or *none*.

For whatsoe're befalls, I shall be fed,
And so shall mine, whilst other men have bread.

From your *well-wishings* these expressions flow;
From these perhaps another fruit may grow;
From that ano her, and from those again
Another, till your wishes you obtain,
And our Endeavours (though what we intend,
Succeed not) shall be prosperous in the end.

BONI OMINIS VOTUM:

Imprinted 1656.

THis (as a *Symptome* of a *Good Omen*) was occasioned by the summoning of Extraordinary *Grand Juries* out of the eminent *Baronets, Knights, Esquires* and *Gentlemen*, to serve in their respective *Counties*, at the *Summer Assizes 1656*, which because it offers what is fit to be considered and remembered, (and is also very short) shall be here inserted without Abreviation.

Good speed to this *Republick*, and encrease
Of *Happiness* to those who seek her *Peace*.
Sad things are threatned, and a lowring *Skye*
Seems to portend great *storms* are drawing nigh:
But look above them, and good courage take,
The *Sun* still shines, although the *Clouds* be black,
And beamings t'rough their darkest parts appear,
Whereby discernable *Good Omens* are,

With *symptoms* of the Blessing we expect,
 If *we our selves* obstruct not their effect,
 And turn them to *ill signs*; which to prevent,
 That which yet follows gives a needful *hint*.
 As both abroad and here within this *Land*,
Publick and *private mens affairs* now stand,
 This *Year* is likely to be *Critical*,
 About the time in which the *leaves* will fall;
 And if *Conjectures* may be builded on,
 We from what's acted, with what's left undone,
 Spell'd both together, somewhat may deduce
 To teach us what ere long will be in use.

Whether it were the *Policy* of some
 In hope it an obstruction might become
 To *Concord*; or the Prudence of the *Shrieve*,
 Or *Special Providence*, which did contrive
 By those *Grand Jurors* so to represent
 Their *Counties*, we shall best know by th' *event* :
 For, whether chearfully they meet and do
 That *Service* which their *Call* invites them to;
 Or, by a wilful *Non-appearance*, wave
 That *Duty* which the *Common Cause* doth crave,
 It will be signal; and to many one
 A *Test*, as virtual as the *Byzian Stone* :
 And, likewise give an *Intellectual View*
 Of some *Result*, which thereon will ensue
 At their *next Meeting*, who to represent
 This *Nation*, shall be by Election sent.

For those *Grand Jurors* are now chosen forth
 Of them, whose Gifts, Estates, Degree or Birth,
 Hath rankt them with the best; yea, out of those
 (Excepting onely open active Foes
 To this *Republick*) who have been suspected
 Næc *Neuters*, or else persons disaffected,

As

As well as from among them, whose true zeal
 Hath kept them constant to this *Commonweal*,
 That they who heartily well minded are,
 Themselves henceforward some way might endear
 Thereto, and thereby for the future stand
 Enroll'd among the *Patriots* of this Land :
 Endow'd with all their *Liberties*, and freed
 From those *Distinguishments* which either breed
 Or nourish secret hatred, to th' encrease
 Of *Quarrels*, and diminishment of *Peace*.

And, who can tell what *Providence* by these
 (Though differing in their *Judgments*) will now please
 To make Effectual for the preservation
 Or settlement of *Peace* throughout this *Nation*,
 When things are acted by a moderate
 Expostulation, in a joint *Debate* ?
 Where ev'ry one may freely speak his thought,
 And when it is consid'ed as it ought,
 That no man can of *safety* be assur'd,
 Until the *Publick Safety* be secur'd.

We know, that *differing Simples* put together,
 So qualifie and so correct each other,
 (Though some are poysonous) that they purge away
Malignant Humours, which would else destroy
 The life of man ; so they who formerly
 Did in their *singular Capacity*
 And *private Judgments*, sometimes a't or speak
 What did at least endanger, if not break
 The *Common Peace*; may when they gath'ed are
 Into one *fellowship*, be helpiul there
 To benefit their *Country* ten times more
 Then they have been, or could be heretofore.
 Yea, as the *fat Lime*, and the *barren Sand*
 When they well mixed are, do make a band

To bind together rough or hewed stone,
 (Which neither of them could have done alone)
 Ev'n so by them who are *Dissenters* now,
 Our *Publick Buildings* may the firmer grow,
 When they into *One Structure* shall be fixt,
 Well qualifi'd, and rationally mixt.

This peradventure may some good presage
 To them who are conven'd to engage
 Within a higher *Orb*, or shortly must
 Become our *Trustees* in a greater *Trust*:
 For he who hath confid'ed it, believes
 That if those *Petty Representatives*,
 By *loving Prudence*, shall prepare a way
 Thereto, (as in good likelihood they may)
 That *Nobler Body*, which to its perfection
 Are (for the most part) rais'd by their *Election*,
 Might be so modaliz'd, and temper'd so,
 That *Discords* into *Sympathies* would grow,
 And all our *Fears* and *Dangers* in the close
 Quite vanish, to the terror of our *Foes*.

It may be thus, and will be thus, if yet
 Mens *Wilfulness* ha h left them any *Wit*:
 For, why should they who now may be at rest,
 Run hazards to advance their Interest,
 Whom nothing else can satisfie but *Pow'r*,
 All others at their pleasure to devour?
 And spoilers of their own Estates become,
 To make a Fortune for they know not whom?
 Or seek to have that *Game* afresh begun,
 By which all may be lost, and nothing won?

I hope they shall be wiser, and that we
 In this *Experiment* shall so wary be,
 That whatsoever others may intend,
 We shall endeavour to promote that End

We ought to prosecute, and at the last
 Our *Anchor* in a peaceful *Harbour* cast.
 I wish it heartily, and (since I see
Wishings are vain where no endeavours be)
 That, those whom it concerns, provoke I may
 To seek this *blessing*, and to help make way
 To that I wish for, I compos'd this *Spell*;
 Let him who mov'd me to it, speed it well;
 And make it so consider'd by this *Nation*
 (Before things grow beyond consideration)
 That *Words* which to their safety do pertain,
 May not be alwayes spoke to them in vain;
 For they are *fools* who still pursue a *Course*
 Which makes a *sickly being* to be worse :
 And they are also little less then *mad*,
 Who would exchange a *good one* for a bad:
 Or put in *hazard* a *possessed Lot*,
 In hope to get what never can be got.

A *Si quis*, or *Queries*, with other
 Verses annexed.

Imprinted in the Year 1648.

Here should have been inserted *Collections* out
 of an *Address* entituled, *A Speech without
 door*; but it is quite lost. The following *Si quis*
 presented to the Members of *Parlament* in their
single Capacities, related to the *Author's* particular
 Interest, and was compos'd in an unusual mode, in
 hope it might have inclined some of them to pro-
 voke

T

voke the rest to take notice of, that which had been often presented unto them in an usual and more *serious manner*. Much may be thereby collected to evidence how most *Parliament men* stood affected as to the Execution of *Justice* about that time. This was laid down at the *Parliament door*.

That day in which Victorious *Cromwel* sent
His first Express (to your great wonderment)
Of *Hamilton's* Defeat; which whilst a *Scot*
Then living, liveth, will not be forgot;
Ev'n on that day, before your feet I spread
A sad Petition, humbly prefaced
By these ensuing lines :

He that is prostrate on the floor,
Lies there whence he can fall no lower,
So does this *Orator* of your.

Petitions he hath oft convey'd

Into your *hands*, yet finds no aid;

These therefore at your *feet* are laid.

There let them not neglected lye,

Nor unregarded pass them by,

But view them with a gracious eye.

And let our *Parents* not provoke

Their *Children*, till offence be took,

By which their patience may be broke.

Consider those who lye below;

For you shall reap what you do sow,

And find such *Mercy* as you sow.

Refresh their *Spirits* who are sad;

As GOD this day hath made you glad

By those good *tydings* you have had.

Among the rest, this *Beadsman* hear,
Who feels the wants which they but fear,
Who dread the effects of this *moist year*.

And blame him not, that thus he shows
His *Cause* as well in *Verse* as *Prose*,
And in a path untrodden goes :

For, scarce *Earth, Water, Air* or *Fire*
Enjoies he, or wherewith to hire
That *Pittance Nature* doth require.

And men in danger to be drown'd,
Lay hold on any trifle found,
To reconveigh them safe aground.

Then this annexed Paper view,
And let him favour'd be of you,
As that which he avers, is true.

Or, if for what he here prefers
His *Suit*, there stand *Competitors*,
Let it be neither *his* nor *theirs*,

But as most equitable it appears.

To my *Petition* fixt, I for your view
Left this upon the *Pavement*, and withdrew,
In hope some kind hand would have been extended
To take it up, that it might be commended
To *free debate*. But *six dayes* now are gone,
And GOD since then the *Mercy* lately shown,
Hath more then doubled on you; yet here I
Still at your door unheard, unheeded lye,
And have as yet not so much favour'd bin
As to be told who took my Paper in.
Of private Scrutenies grown therefore weary,
I have in *publike* now set up this *Query*.

Your House receiving notice twelve months since,
 Of my long suffering, and my *Indigence*,
 (Occasion'd in your *Service*) thought it fit
 To some *Selected Members* to commit
 The finding an *Employment* to supply
Subsistence, till my great necessity
 Might be removed, by discharging that
 Which is to me yet owing by the *State*.
 I (having long without success attended)
 Stand at this present by them recommended
 Unto a *Place* nam'd, wherein there appears
 With me, nor few, nor mean Competitors;
 And some (to vacate your intent thereby)
 Have also term'd it a *Monopoly*.
 I humbly make *Queries*.

' First, Whether he that's well known to have bin
 ' Foe to the Cause you are engaged in,
 ' Standing Competitor with him that's known
 ' To hazard for it all that was his own,
 ' Can be preferr'd without a wrong to you,
 ' And an entrenchment on the other's due?

' Next, Whether a Competitor defam'd
 ' For breach of Trust (by whomsoever nam'd)
 ' Ought rather by your Votes to be befriended,
 ' Then he who to your House is recommended
 ' By her own *Members*, and 'gainst whom no man
 ' Exhibits justly an *Impeachment* can?

' Then whether he your Grace deserveth best,
 ' Who hath for you lost all his Interest
 ' In *outward things*; or they whose *Wealth* is more
 ' Since our *distractions* then it was before?

' And lastly, Whether ought may be compris'd
 ' Among things judg'd to be *Monopoliz'd*,

' When

‘ When all the *Profits* which from thence arise,
 ‘ Are brought into the *Publick Treasuries*,
 ‘ And whereof neither *one alone*, or *few*,
 ‘ But all men likewise have their proper due?

Consider well, I humbly pray of these
 Few *Queries*; and then do as you shall please.
 For, though my hopes in these poor Suits may fail;
 I shall in what is my chief aim prevail.
 Yea, ere this *Land* hath Rest, a day will be,
 In which there shall be some regard of me;
 And then, that which is now perus’d with Jeers,
 Shall fill their *scornful Readers* full of fears.

*These Verses next following, were upon the
 same Occasion presented to several Members
 of the House of Commons, repairing thi-
 ther the 23d of December 1648, being the
 next day after their Humiliation, with an
 Imprinted Petition thereto annexed.*

They who at *Rich mens* thresholds begging lye,
 (I hough long neglected) wil prolong their cry
 Till they an answer get, and so will I.

I know it is not *Eight and thirty year*
 Since first I was an humble Suter here;
 And yet to me it seems as if it were.

Dayes, Months and Years I sadly waiting stand,
 Yet no man speaks a *Word*, none lends a *Hand*
 To help me, though but *Justice* I demand.

And therefore, such as know me, and my *Case*,
Observe it to the scandal of that *Place*,
Whose guilt I blush for, as my own disgrace.

But now I hope the *Pool* which heretofore
Cur'd some days *none*, or *one*, (and few days more)
Is mov'd so, that *one day* will cure a *score*.

And that he prosecutes not his *Affairs*
Unseasonably, who to a Means repairs
New sanctifi'd, with *Fastings* and with *Prayers*.

Excuse me then, that thus I do forelay,
And (as it were) arrest you in the way
Unto the House of *Parliament* this day.
And (whatsoe're this morning is design'd
To be debated there) some minutes find
To hear that *Prayer* which is herewith join'd.

Yea, spare a little time to do him right,
Who (having serv'd you with a heart upri:ht)
Seeks but his *own*, that you enjoy it might.

For, 'tis a loss to you, that he or they
Who could, and did for you *lend*, *give* and *pay*,
Should scarce have bread sufficient for the day.

And 'tis to your dishonour too, that such
Who to secure you, *Goods* nor *Lives* did grutch,
Should want, whilst your betrayers are grown rich.
If you in your *Grand Work* the worse succed
For doing of this *Charitable deed*,
Leave me hereafter quite out of your *Creed*.

Or, if they long thrive, who as heretofore
Shall still defer to hear and help the poor,
Kick me and my *Petitions* out of door.

'Tis now within your Walls, and I expect
It will be there this day with good effect,
Though some should think it merited neglect.

For,

For of that *Crisis* 'twill a ground-work be,
Whereby I shall undoubtingly foresee,
What will become of *other men* and *me*.
Things present at some points of time foreshew
Things future; and unless mistake I do,
That which this day produceth, will do so.

That which was predicted in the last lines, hath accordingly succeeded, and justly; for that expressed in the *Petition* annexed to the preceding Verses, was in effect that which next follows.

The Effect of the Author's Petition.

IT shewed, That after several *Accompts* upon Oath examined, stated and reported by the *Commissioners of the Navy*, an *Ordinance* was passed the 22d of *March* 1647, for payment of 1681 l. 15 s. 8 d, out of the *Excise in Course*, without *Interest*, which was to that day wholly unpaid, though 60 l. had been spent in soliciting for it, and *Interest* had also been paid by him for 700 l. thereof, which was by him borrowed for the *Parliaments* Use, upon credit of the Warrant from the *Committee of Safety*, in *May* 1643, for immediate payment of 1327 l. wholly unpaid to that day. That he had also no recompence for 57 l. respited upon the *Publick Faith* by the *Committee of Accompts*; nor for that money (though allowed to others) which was deducted of his Pay, for *Trophies*. That whereas 1800 l. was upon another *Accompt* granted by an *Order of both Houses*, *March* 15, 1647, out of *De-*
linquents

linguents Estates to be discovered at *Haberdashers-Hall*, that *Order* brought on him cost and trouble, without benefit; and that what he was possessed of by orderly seizures, was taken away again by *Compositions* at *Goldsmiths-Hall*, and by other *Committees*, to his damage and disgrace, instead of benefit. That it being proved also upon Oath, how he was damaged (about six years then past) by the loss of his *Stock*, his *Lease*, and an *Employment* which might probably (for sixteen years to come) have produced 400 l. *per an.* That though recompence was promised by the *Parliament*, his repair was nevertheless neglected, till he had spent all superfluous things in his possession, and was imprisoned for what he had borrowed, as aforesaid, for the *States Service*, till he was compelled for discharge of that Debt, to sell 40 l. *per an.* in *Reversion*, and 100 l. *per an.* in *Possession*, for certain time to come; which, with a little *Household-stuff*, was all the Estate he had then left. More might be alledged of this *Petitioner's* Losses; but he hath had *patience* to suffer, more then you have *leisure* to hear.

In consideration of the premisses, he humbly prays, That the said 168 l. 15 s. 8 d. may be paid with *Interest*, as allowed to others. That the 700 l. borrowed for the *State*, and for which he hath paid *Interest* five years, may be made payable accordingly, with the 57 l. respited, and the 300 l. by him already disbursed; as also the said 1800 l. made payable by the said *Ordinance* of both *Houses*, the 22d of *March* 1647, out of the *Excise*, or out of *Compositions* at *Goldsmiths-Hall*, with *Interest*, until all shall be paid, to relieve his Wants, to proceed with his *Contracts*, and to disoblige him from his *Creditors*,

To

To this effect was the annexed *Petition*; but all this was neglected, ev'n when the Petitioner was thereby constrained to live upon Charity, (as appear'd by his *Poem*, called *Westrow revived*) until GOD providentially beyond his hope, almost in a miraculous way, enabled him to purchase a considerable Estate, by means of their acting against him, who thereby intended their own benefit and his ruine. And that Estate was also lost again by their *self-seeking* and *Injustice*, who thereby lost likewise their Power, as that Petitioner often predicted it would come to pass. For, after preferring the foregoing *Petition*, the said *Parliament* sold unto him a *Mannor* worth about 300 l. *per an.* in consideration of a part of his Debt, and of about 1600 l. more by him paid. The Deeds were sealed, Possession delivered, and he enjoyed it a while; nevertheless they sold it again to a *Member* of their own, who pretended to a concealed Mortgage thereof, (probably forged) whereupon by a *suit in Law*, this Petitioner was ejected without any satisfaction, having lost, besides his *Purchase-money*, about a *Thousand Marks* in charge of Suit, with other unavoidable Expences, and the loss of the whole *Purchase*, without likelihood of one penny toward satisfaction for ever. Moreover upon further consideration, the *Parliament* allowed Interest for the aforesaid 1681 l. 15 s. 8 d. charged upon the Excise, with 300 l. formerly due for *Interest*; which 300 l. with much difficulty was procured by *Oliver Cromwell's Order*; but all payments out of the *Excise Office* being retrenched for the *Publick Service*, the Petitioner having forborn that great sum almost twenty years, never received more of the *Interest*

or *Principle-money*, and the said *Parliament* being quite dissolved, gave over that Debt as quite lost for ever; yet he lost not all, for he had thereby a true *feeling* of that whereof he had experience formerly by *sight* and *report* onely; as also both of GOD's *Justice* and *Mercy*.

The Tired PETITIONER.

THis being a *single sheet*, was imprinted without a *date*, about the same time with what last precedes; and offers to remembrance some neglects not inconsiderable. But it may be thought by many, that this *Author* hath in these, and the *Verses* next foregoing, insisted too much in particulars relating to himself; therefore this short excuse was added. He was (as he believeth) providentially engaged by *Publick Services* interwoven with his *private Affairs*, that he might have means and opportunities to gain a *personal Experience* of the chief *Transactions* in those times; which if he had taken up on *trust*, and by *report* onely, he could not have been so assured of, as by being made sensible how those *persons* were qualify'd, by whom the *Work* then in hand was carried on; nor what *Occasions* were from time to time justly offer'd, to prosecute that which he thought pertinent to his duty in relation to GOD and his *Countrey*, as he did, and might do by *knowing*, and being known to most persons of *Quality*

lity then active in those *Publick Affairs*, with which his *private Concernments* were linked throughout the progress of that *Parliament*, from the strange and unexpected *beginning* thereof, to the no less strange end of it. For by his *personal sufferings* under that *Power* above twenty years, with little intermission, (notwithstanding his faithfulness thereunto) it did the better appear how great many of their *Grievances* were, who had neither that likely means either to prosecute *Remedies*, or to make them so well known; to prevent the like heedlessness and want of compassionating private mens Oppressions hereafter; This he hopes will sufficiently Apologize for him to all rational men; and therefore here shall be added some part of that which he offered upon the fore-mentioned occasion, to those Members of *Parliament* whom he thought his Friends.

Sirs, if this *Paper* find you (who to me Are not so fully known as you should be) It comes to move, that my *Petitions* may Obtain your *Answer* without more delay; Lest by attendance (as my Neighbours do) With my *Estate*, I lose my *Patience* too. For, I have waited, and endur'd so long, That no *Result* can do me greater wrong Then *lingring hopes*; and were I quite undone, I possibly another course might run To be repair'd again, ere I obtain That *Benefit* which I had hope to gain: Or, else might find some other likely way To fit me for the part I have to play.

Some say my *Friends* are more then I do know;
And I am hopeful that it may be so:

For, if kind language and much complement
 Are signs thereof, nor *Christendom* nor *Kent*
 Knows any man who may himself apply
 Unto your *House* with better hopes than I :
 But, if by *real deeds* it must be known
 What *Friends* I have, their number small is grown :
 Or, else their *Pow'r* attaineth not unto
 Those friendly offices they wish to do :
 And peradventure they obstructed be
 In their endeavours, by defects in me.

It may be 'tis observ'd I want *Relations*,
 Gifts-qualifying, or those Commendations
 That should advance my *Suits*; & which might make
 Those active who mens Causes undertake ;
 And I half think it so ; for ere this day,
 Some one or other else had gotten way
 For my *Petitions*, or appeared able
 To make my *Suits* and me considerable :
 Since others who have neither *lost* nor *spent*,
 Nor for the *Publick* hazarded or lent
Life, Limb or *Money*, find means to be heard
 With expedition, and with good regard.

But hitherto my hopes do not succeed
 According to my *suffrings* and my *need*.
Two Months upon one *Suit* I have bestown;
 Upon a former, thrice three Months and one;
 Upon another, four times three, and nine;
 Yet still some other *Cause* out-juttles mine:
 And ev'n by *favours* hitherto obtain'd,
 More *Mischiefs* than *Advantages* are gain'd;
 Because in th' *execution* they have wanted
 That *influence* whereby they first were granted.

This, with uncrazed patience I can bear
 So long as my desires delay'd appear,

By

By those Affairs which profitable be
 Unto the *Publick*, though they hinder me;
 Since whilst that thrives, I cannot be bereft
 Of all my hopes, nor comfortless be left.
 But, if I still perceive my *Suit* delay'd,
 Or crost, for *private ends*; I am afraid
 My *Grievances* will make my *Plaints* outroar
 The Cries of all the Women at your door.

Preserve I would, according to my might,
 My *Private Freedoms* with our *Publick Right*;
 And, *wise men* will consider, that unless
 They heed some time, a *single mans* distress,
 (At least in his extreams) that *one by one*,
 The *Generality* may be undone:
 And that a bruise upon the smallest toe
 May gangreen to the bodies overthrow.

In me (although my *Sufferings* are despis'd)
 The *Common Grievance* is epitomis'd;
 And, as this day the *Kingdoms Cause* doth lye
 Distrest between two *Factions*, so do I:
 For, what some would have granted for *my sake*,
 Is crost for their sakes who the motion make,
 Because but few men are by those made strong,
 With whom they side not both in *Right* and *wrong*.
 But whatsoever shall to me betide,
 Whether my *Suits* be granted or deni'de,
 By your endeavourings, it shall not wrest
 My thoughts for any *private Interest*,
 To murmur at it; so you will befriend
 My *Suit* so much, to bring it to an end:
 That from your *Labyrinths* I may retire,
 And be again at leisure to enquire
 What will become of *me*; and what of *Them*
 Who take the *Courses* which good men condemn:

For to retreat, and gotten ground to yeild.
Is otherwhile the means to win the field;
And he that would turn *Floods* another way,
Must dig his *Drain* before he builds the *Bay*.

He that hath *Money* to promote his Ends,
Needs neither strain his *Wits* nor tire his *Friends*.
He that hath *Friends* his Matters to contrive,
May (though he have nor *Wit* nor *Mony*) live.
He that hath *Wit*, and wants the other *twain*,
May live, but not without some *want* and *pain*.
He that hath *two* of these, and wanteth *one*,
Cannot be very rich, or quite undone.
He that hath all of these, might be a *King*,
Were he ambitious to be such a thing,
And he that is depriv'd of all these three,
May be as happy as I seem to be.

SE DEFENDENDO.

Imprinted without Date.

THis was an *Apology* written by the Author in *Prose*, to vindicate himself from such Aspersions as had been injuriously, and without any probable Cause cast upon him by Malicious Detractors, as well to hide the unjust dealing with him, as to disparage his Endeavours relating to the Publick Service. It contains many particulars, which being timely well heeded, might have prevented such mischiefs and disadvantages as afterward befel, and continue to this day. The *date* is not mentioned in the *Imprinted Copies*: But the time may be well enough known

known by the *Contents*. The matter is such as cannot be abreviated without dismembring and making the whole invalid; and therefore the Book is referred to their perusal unto whose hands it may come.

JUSTITIARIUS JUSTIFICATUS,

Imprinted without Date.

THIS is also an *Apologetical Discourse*, the imprinting whereof is very well known to some; For, it was burnt by the hand of the *Common Hangman*; and the *Author* (though he neither published it, nor intended the distributing thereof to any but Members of *Parliament*, to whom cognizance of the *Cause* most properly pertained) was both *fined* and *confined* for it, neither being called to answer for himself, nor having knowledge of his *Impeachment*, until sentence was past against him. But his *Innocency* was so well known to the greatest number of the most conscientious Members of that *Parliament*, whereby he was censured, that (though the *Accusation* was brought in early in the morning, upon a day set apart for debating a Cause relating to the *Scots*) so many of the said *Members* then present, so abominated what they perceived to be then intruded; that the whole day was spent before the *Authors* Enemies could prevail against him: So many of them also, had been ear and eye-witnesses, of an impudent injustice, whereby he was oppressed by their *Committee of Examinations* in another Cause;

Cause ; that it occasioned the Voting down of that *Committee*, within a day or two afterward : And the same Parliament, upon better Consideration, having also made trial of the *Authors* patience in suffering, about the space of a whole year, discharged him both from the said *Fine* and *Imprisonment*, without his Petitioning or Mediation for it : For, at that time his Friends by Gods Providence, had a seasonable Opportunity to move on his behalf, there being a considerable number then present, who were jealous to do *Justice*, and discharge the *Trust* reposed in them by their *Electors*.

This is all that shall be inserted touching the contents of that Book ; because, there are persons therein mentioned by *Name*, whose failings he desireth may be forgotten , in hope they are as truly to him reconciled, as he is to them.

VOX PACIFICA.

Imprinted 1645.

THIS was a *Voice* tending to the *Pacification* of Gods wrath, and to make some such *Proposals* as might help to reconcile those by whom the *Common Peace* was infringed ; and offered many particulars to consideration, which are stil as needful, and as much neglected now as at that time. It consists of four *Cantos* , containing about 200 Pages, two *Cantos* more being intended, but not finished, because

cause the *Author* thought his labour would be quite lost, here are inserted a few *particulars*, in hope it may invite them to whose hands the Book comes to peruse it at large. In the Page before the *Title*, and engraven *Frontispiece*, the meaning of it is thus exprest.

A *Trumpet* sounds a Parlee to this *Isle*,
 And over it a *Hand* d'splaies the while
 A *Flag of Peace*, that this *new Sign* at door
 May draw you on to see a little more.
 We hung it forth, that these besotted *Nations*
 May heed the seasons of their *Visitations*.
 And grow more careful to conform their wayes
 To what this *Voice*, and their *known duty* sayes;
 Though yet the most, our *words* no more have markt,
 Then if a *Cat* had mew'd, or *Dog* had barkt, &c.

The Epistle before the said Book, intended to the *King*, *Parliament* and *People*, thus begins.

Not to Petition *King* or *Parliament*,
 Or court the *People* suit with his intent
 Who sends out this, nor is he come to crave
 Your Favours, or your Patronage to have.
 It is almost too late; and 'twas too soon :
 At this time therefore, he expects that *Born*
 From one who better knows him, and from whom
 This *Voice* doth both to sight and hearing come:
 He, had he alwayes thus resolv'd, had lost
 Less labour, and escaped with less cost.

He hath no will to flatter; if he had,
 To flatter at this time, were to be mad.

And peradventure also, he hath now
As little *cause* as mind to flatter you.

Yet, that the same affection may appear
With which by him you alway served were ;
And that he may not give a just offence
By seeming careless of the Reverence
Belonging to your *Grandure*, he professes,
That meerly for the sake of these Expresses,
The freedom of *bold Language* he assumes, &c.

The *News* he brings, though thus declar'd it be,
Will warrantize the *Speaker* to be free;
And, if it be despised, he conceives,
Some will ere long grow bold without your leaves,
To make you hear with ruder Complements,
A blunter Language, and to worse intents :
For dreadful things are murmur'd, and unless
Men more conform to that which they profess,
You'll find at last, he dareth without fear,
To speak more *Truth* than many dare to hear.
What ever he or his rude Language seems,
Your persons none more loves, or more esteems;
None seeks your Honour or your Safety more
Then he doth now, or hath done heretofore.
None oftner his own blame hath ventur'd on,
That others might not wholly be undone.
He hath no aim herein at ought which tends
To his own personal or private ends.
And thus professeth he, that you might grow
The more advantag'd by believing so,
And that his purposes no other are,
Then he professeth, plain it will appear
To men of Ingenuity and Wit,
Who weigh what's past, with what he now hath writ.

For

For whosoe're hath observation took
With what impartial freedom he hath spoke
The *Truth* to each side (sparing Friend nor Foe)
(Nor caring who displeas'd or pleas'd should grow)
Can never draw a false *Conclusion* thence,
Without much folly, or much impudence.
Be wary therefore that this *Voice* you heed,
Before to any *Censures* you proceed
Condemning It, or *Him* from whom it came,
Lest you your selves incur the greatest blame.
For if this *Voice* be welcome to your ear,
The blessed way of *Peace* it shall prepare;
And you shall by the Charmings of this *Song*,
Perceive the rage of *War* allay'd ere long :
The wicked *Spirit* shall be conjur'd down,
By whom the Seeds of *Discord* have been sown.
The *Hags* and *Furies* which have danced here,
No longer to affright you shall appear;
But all the sacred *Virtues*, and the *Graces*,
Shall beautifie your desolated Places.
But, if this *Voice* you either shall contemn,
Or him for speaking it, (what ere he seem)
Time shall, by GOD's permission, spread the fame,
In spite of your detractions to your shame,
To bear a testimonial of your Crimes,
And your Impenitence; to future times ;
Or, for a warning to those yet to come ,
Or to exalt GOD's Justice in your doom;
The least of which will yeeld a rich Return
For all his pains, though his good will you scorn.

Page the 39th, after many fore-expressions by way of preparation, in order to what was intended by that *Poem*, this follows.

You look for *Peace*, (and he who well could sing
That *Song*, deserveth highly to be priz'd)
But, what can hither such a *Blessing* bring,
Whilst most Conditions thereof are despis'd?
Or, what as yet have they to do with *Peace*,
Whom their *Corrections* move not to repent?
Whilst wickedness doth rather more encrease,
Then seem abated by their *Chastisement*?
Who can expect that fretting *Corrosives*
Shall be removed from a fest'ring sore,
Until the skilful Surgeon first perceives
It may with healing-salves be plastr'd o're;
Unless he rather hath a mind to see
The *Patient* quite destroy'd, then cur'd to be?

How few are yet observ'd, whose former course
Is better'd by those *Plagues* which now lie on them?
How many rather do appear the worse,
And to be more corrupt then we have known them?
In what perpetual broiles are they involved
Who for the *Publick Welfare* most endeavor?
How friendless are they who seem best resolved,
And in good Resolutions do persevere?
How many into *Parties* quickly band,
A questioned *Delinquent* to protect?
How few men for that *Innocent* will stand,
Whom Malice doth accuse, or but suspect?
And who now lives, and loves the *Common Right*,
Who suffers not some insolent despight?

Though

Though most men see destruction hanging over
 Their giddy heads; their Tragedy begun,
 And round about them nothing can discover
 But universal Ruine drawing on :

Ambition, Malice, Avarice and Pride,
Self-will, Self-love, Hypocrisie and Guile,
 As arrogantly still on Horse-back ride,
 As if no Plague had seized on this Isle.
 This man for *Place*, that striveth for *Command*,
 Pretends the *Publick Weal*, but seeks his *own*,
 And cares not, if he profit by the hand,
 If *Law* and *Gospel* too, be overthrown.

And he who their *Preserver* would become,
 Finds furious Foes abroad, and worse at home.

In ev'ry Shire, in ev'ry Town and City,
 This *Kingdoms Discords* are epitomiz'd;
 In ev'ry Corporation and Committee,
 Some Engine of *Division* is devis'd.

Occasions daily spring; each man engaging
 To side with, or stand leaning to some *Faction*,
 And by new quarrels more and more enraging
 Their Fury, to the heightning of *Distraction* :
 An *Emblem* of which madness he might draw,
 Who saw within an old thatch'd Barn on fire,
 Poor beggars quarrelling for lowlie straw,
 (Or Dunghil rags or clouts rak'd from the Mire)

Who wil not heed their harms, or cease to brawl,
 Until the *Flame* consumes *Rogues*, rags and all.

How can *calm Peace* be timely wooed thither,
 Where men grown beast-like are in their dissentions;
 And where the means of knitting them together,
 Are still occasions made of new contentions ?

How

How can these Isles have peace that are so vitious,
 And who have Factious Spirits rais'd in them
 As wilfully dispos'd as those *Seditious*,
 Who brought destruction on *Jerusalem*?
 How can they look for *Peace*, while they contrive
 Designs enlarging still their discontent?
 Whilst *Policy* doth wedges daily drive
 'Twixt ev'ry Joint, to make a cureless Rent?
 And, whilst to mend the breaches of this Land,
 There's nothing brought but peble stones & sand?

How can these miserable Isles have Peace,
 Whilst *Justice* nor *Compassion* find regard?
 Whilst they who should protect, do most oppress;
 When *sin* escapes *blame*, and *Virtue* wants reward?
 How can he hope for *Peace*, who would enjoy
 His *Will* on any terms, and for the *shade*,
 The *Substance* of those *Mercies* quite destroy,
 Which might by patient industry be had?
 Or how can he be worthy of that blessing,
 Who knowing how much it hath lately cost
 In blood and treasure, lets the repossessing
 Of that dear Purchase, for a toy be lost?
 And doth for evermore himself undo,
 To satisfy his lust a year or two?

Who knoweth not, that more dread most men have,
 Lest of *Estate* or *Person* they should lose
 The loved Freedoms, then to be a slave
 To him whose Tyranny the soul undoes?
 You chiefly for self-ends give, lend and pay;
 To that intent strict Covenants you make;
 To that end you sometimes do fast and pray;
 To that intent much care and pains you take.

Yea,

Yea, many goodly things to that intent
You often do, and many moe intend;
But your Peace-offerings all in vain are spent,
Till you direct them to their proper end,
And till the *Peace* which you desire to make,
Shall be desir'd for *Truth* and *Conscience* sake.

Who sees not, that a *Peace* you now desire,
For nought but that you might again enjoy
Your Lusts, and to those Vanities retire,
Wherein you did your former dayes employ ?
Who sees not, that like to those *Isra'elites*
Whom from th' *Egyptian Bondage* GOD redeem'd,
You have the pleasing of your Appetites
Much more then your *Deliverer* esteem'd ?
Their Garlike and their Flesh-pots left behind,
They thought on more then on their servitude
From which they came; & more then they did mind
The *Wonders* and the *Mercies* which God shew'd.
And you have acted as in imitation
Of that perverse and foolish Generation, &c.

After the mentioning of many other Actings and
Omissions obstructive to *Peace-making*, he proceeds,
Pag. 49.

Assoon shall he who Westward alwayes goes,
Meet him that still an Eastward point doth steer,
As your two *Factions* in a firm Peace close,
Till they in their chief Aims approach more near.
For th' one is bent the other to enslave;
The other is resolved to be free:
The last would keep what GOD and Nature gave;
The first would seize what ought not theirs to be:
And

And these from reconciliation are so far,
 That all their kindness is but to betray :
 When most they talk of *Peace*, they purpose *War*;
 When they embrace, they mean to stab and slay.
 And when perhaps you think the War is done,
 The greatest Mischiefs will be but begun.

For as yet nor th' one, nor th' other side,
 Nor *King*, nor *People*, *Commoners*, nor *Peers*,
 Nor *Flocks*, nor *Shepherds* have the *Course* yet tri'd
 By which you can be saved from your fears.
 A *Treaty* might compleat it; but, before
 You venture that, you must be fit to treat :
 For then the Work were half way done, and more;
 And till that be, no step you forward get.
 In heat of *Quarrels*, nothing done or spoke
 Can reconcile; a *Friends* words move you not :
 The more you talk, the more the peace is broke,
 Till you your lost considering Caps have got :
 Till your hot *blood* is cool'd, till rage is gone,
 And *Reason* doth examine things alone.

Then peradventure, &c. —

See further, Page 51.

Until both parties do at least agree,
 In all those *Common Principles* whereby
Human Society preserv'd may be
 With *Natures Rights*, and *Christian Liberty*,
 All *Treaties* will be mischievous, or vain,
 To men adhering to the better course;
 For, by such *Treatings*, *Politicians* gain
 Advantages to make your being worse :

Yea,

Yea, by that means these find occasions may
 To gain, or give intelligence; to make
 New Plots and Friends; to hasten or delay
 As cause requires, and other wayes to take
 For their avail; which else they had not got,
 And which true honesty alloweth not.

This Precaution is added, Pag. 139.

Take serious heed that zeal to *Innovations*,
 Or causeless fears or hopes incline your mind
 To subjugate these *Kingdoms* and these *Nations*
 To Governments of any Foreign kind;
 But rather use your utmost diligence,
 To rectifie those things that are amiss
 In that which is establish'd; and from thence
 Cast and purge out what ever therein is
 Repugnant to those *Charters* which by *Grace*
 Or *Nature* were confer'd; and let your care
 Beso to settle all, that you make place
 The throne of *Christ* among you to prepare:
 Lest when his *Kingdom* comes, you must be sain
 To pluck your *new devices* down again.

Take likewise heed you no just means neglect,
 Whereby the *King* may be recall'd, and wonne,
 GOD's Honour, with your safety to respect,
 And do the duties he hath left undone.
 For, by rejecting Him, how just foe're
 The Cause may seem, you shall delay the *Peace*
 That is desir'd, and make the *Quarrels* here
 With much more difficulty to decrease.
 But, if your *Prudence* shall win him home,
 And he return sincerely to his Charge,

It shall a blessing to these Isles become;
 Your Honour and your Joy it shall enlarge.
 And as *Christ's* Vice-Roy he shall sit upon
 A Righteous and an everlasting Throne.

Walk therefore prudently in this streight path,
 And turn not to the left hand or the right:
 That *Pow'r* which God to you committed hath,
 Improve for him according to your might;
 Him in the reasonable Means attend
 With *Faith* and *Patience*, that he may at last
 Your *King* new moulded back unto you send,
 Or him out of his ruin'd Kingdoms cast.
 If his misdoings timely he repent,
 GOD will restore him; and if you amend,
 Then that which hitherto hath made a *Rent*
 Betwixt you, shall in sweet agreement end.

If both conform, both shall true *Peace* enjoy;
 If both be *wilful*, GOD shall both destroy, &c.

See the 198th Page, where it thus follows.

Let serious care be took, and quickly too,
 That her due Rights the *Commonwealth* enjoy:
 That *private men* their duties better do,
 Lest they by their *divisions* all destroy.
 Let not those foolish *Toyes* who do besot
 Themselves with arrogance, presume to prate
 As if a *Parliament* had them begot
 To be now Heirs apparent to the *State*.
 Permit you not *Religious Melancholly*,
Pilegmatick Avarice, or *Zeal Cholerick*,
 Nor suffer an Excess of *Sanguine folly*
 To make both *Church* and *State* grow deadly sick,
 Or

Neglected Remembrances, &c.

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Or rather mad, and in their mad distractions
To tear themselves into a thousand Fractions.

Let not your *King* and *Parliament* in One,
Much less *apart*, mistake themselves for that
Which is most worthy to be thought upon,
Or think they are essentially the *State*.
Let them not fancy that th' *Authority*
And *Priviledges* upon them betiown,
Confer'd were to set up a *Majesty*,
A *Power* or a *Glory* of their own.
But let them know, that for another thing,
Which they but represent, and which ere long
Them to a strict account will doubtless bring,
If any way they do it wilful wrong:
For that indeed is really the *face*,
And they but as the *shadow* in a *Glass*.

&c.

Moreover let them know this, that if either
They still dividing, grow from bad to worse,
Or without *Penitence* unite together,
And by their sin provoke him to that course,
GOD out of their *Confusions* can and will
Create a *Means*, and raise a *Lawful Pow'r*
His Promise to his People to fulfil;
And his and their *Opposers* to devour.
Yea, bid both *King* and *Parliament* make hast,
In penitence united to appear,
Lest into those *Confusions* they are cast,
Which will affright them both, yea make them fear,
And know there is on Earth a greater thing
Then an unrighteous *Parliament* or *King*.

ly sick,
Or

Because the *Poem* is large, and hard to be gotten, to supply that defect here are added the *Contents* of every *Canto*, as they are in the imprinted Book.

The Contents of the First Canto.

First, here is to your view prefer'd,
When, where, and how this *Voice* was heard :
 What kind of *Musings* were the ground,
 What Worlds and Wonders may be found
 'Within *our selves*; what safe *Retreats*
 From those Oppressions, Frauds and Baits
 Which are without; how little fear
 Of Terrors which affright us here :
 How plainly there a man may see
 The Villanies that acted be
 For *private Ends*, with feigned shows :
 How general *Corruption* grows :
 Why to acquaint you with this *Voice*,
 GOD by so mean a man makes choice,
 Then shews how our great hopes deceive us,
 And prays his aid who can relieve us.

The Contents of the Second Canto.

This *Canto's* Preface being done,
 The *Voice* to these effects goes on:
 Tells how unworthy we are yet,
 For *Peace* desired how unfit :
 How vain, how harmful *Treaties* be,
 Till both sides in one *Th'rd* agree ;
 And (laying by ignoble *Ends*)
 Use likely means of being friends.

Shews

Shews that the *Peace* which most pursue,
Will be nor permanent, nor true :
Then that some *Cures* may be appli'de,
Declares what Parts are putrifi'de,
Which must be purg'd without delay,
Or cauteriz'd, or cut away,
If we will, ere it be too late,
Repair this weak, this dying *State*.

The Contents of the Third Canto.

Here, whether you be pleas'd or no,
This *Author* maketh bold to show
That portion of his private wrongs,
Whose knowledg and recess belongs
To *Publick Interest*; that her eye
May through his wounds her scars espye.
The *Voice* then speaks again, and schools
In him, all other froward fools,
Who with impatiency do vent
Their private wrongs, or discontent ;
And look their *Trifles* should be heard,
When *Kingdoms* cannot find regard.
It shews our *Senate* blameless is,
Of many things which are amiss :
And where the fault and fountain lies
From whence our present *Plagues* arise.

The Contents of the Fourth Canto.

Whilst here the *Author* doth recite
His *Musings* after *Naseby Fight*,
The *Voice* returns, and doth begin
To tell us what must usher in

Exiled

Exiled Peace: Then told are we
 How kept our *Vows* and *Covenants* be:
 How we *Reform*, and *Fast*, and *Pray*,
 What *Thankfulness* we do repay.
 What must in general be done,
 What by each *individual* one.
 What Course both *King* and *People* take,
 Ere they their *Peace* with *GOD* shall make.
 What he expecteth from these *Nations*,
 From *Cities*, *Towns* and *Corporations*,
 And ev'ry House in some degree,
 Before true *Peace* will settled be.

Carmen Expostulatorium,
 Imprinted 1647.

THis was intended to prevent the engaging these
Nations into a *Second Warre*, when the di-
 viding of the *City* and *Army* was then by some
 endeavoured, and likely to be effected.

The same *Precautions* are at this day pertinent to
 consideration, and are therefore here abbreviated.

Though I have written heretofore in vain,
 And may do now; yet I will write again,
 In hope that what by *Reason* and by *Rime*
 Was not effected, may be done in *Time*;
 And, that although my pains be lost to some,
 It shall not fruitless unto all become.

Hark!

Hark ! how the Drums beat, & the Trumpets are
Sounding Alarms to a *Second Warre*
Before the first is done; and whilst yet green
The wounds upon your bodies may be seen.
Behold, that which was coming long ago,
Draws now so near, that none shall need foreshow
What at the last will thereupon ensue :
For we without a *Glass* may plainly view
Such things in kenning, that unless our GOD
To them shall please to set a period,
(Or make some such *diversion* as no man
Conjecture of by any Symptome can)
An *Universal Plague* will on us seize,
Instead of Remedies for our Disease.
How then can I in time of need withhold
That which my Conscience tells me should be told ?
Why should I keep those *Premotions* back,
Which I conceive my Friends at this time lack ?
A poor mans Counsel once (as we hear say)
Did save a City; so perhaps this may.
Excuse me therefore if (much grieved at
Your rash proceedings) I expostulate
Concerning that, whereby it seems to me
The War may now again renewed be.

Renowned *Citizens*, what do you mean
To make your *City* the unhappy Scene
Whereon there shall in probability
Be acted now the bloodiest Tragedy
That e're this Island saw ? are you grown mad ?
And is there no *Physician* to be had
For this disemp'raiture, but must it here
Be *Cuckow-moon*, or *Dog-dayes* all the year ?
Have you no Drugs that may lost wits restore ?
Can *Petience*, *Herbage*, nor *Hilbore*,

Nor

Nor any other Simple or Confection,
 Work out that noysome humour and infection
 Which hath besotted you, till ye grow fit
 For *Bedlam*, where are no such mad men yet ?

Page 3, it thus follows.

Have you not yet discover'd who be they
 That cheat you, and for whom this *Game* you play
 By your divisions ? And when others find
 Their falshood for you, will you still be blind,
 Or wink, as careles of the things you heed,
 Till by long winking you grow blind indeed ? &c.

Cannot you yet discover through the mist,
 Those Juglings which the Spawn of *antichrist*
 (False *Priests* and lying *Prophets*) practise now,
 To raise themselves, and work your overthrow ?
 Nor with what impudence they publish lyes,
 (Their bitter *jeerings*, and their *blasphemies*)
 To make new *breaches*, or to widen those
 Which *Love* and *Prudency* begun to close ?
 And which ere this time closed up had been,
 Had they not cast untemp'ed dirt between ?

Page the Fourth.

Is it a time your *Quarrels* to renew,
 When all is hazarded that's dear to you ?
 Observe ye not *Three Factions* like to them
 Which were the ruine of *J. rusalem*,
 At strife within your Walls ? Do you not see
 What sp ghastly sparklings in their eyes there be ?

How

How sharply they against each other whet
 Their stand'rous tongues? how grinningly they set
 Their gnashing teeth? Observe ye not how they
 With *Pens* dipt in black poyson, do assay
 To re-engage you, and with *curfed words*
 Provoke the reinsheathing of your *Swords*,
 That ev'ry *Son* and *Father*, *Friend* and *Brother*,
 May sheath them in the heart of one another, &c.

Have you concluded never to retire
 In your *Career*, till all is on a Fire?
 And you and yours lye sprawling in the plashes
 Of your own blood, or in your *Cities* ashes?
 Or till you see this goodly stately Frame
 (The work of many Ages) in a *Flame*?

Have you so often heard it said from him
 (Whose true *Presages* no men will contemn
 But *Reprobates*) what miserable *Fate*
 Attends that *House*, that *City*, and that *State*
 Which is divided? Have his *Prophecies*
 So often been fulfill'd before your eyes?
 And are they at this day so likely too
 To be ere long fulfilled upon you?
 And yet will you a *New Division* run,
 As if you studied how to be undone?
 Or, as if you resolv'd to keep that path,
 Which to avoid, your GOD forewarn'd you hath?

After many other *Expostulations*, and neglected
Precautions, tending to their *Welfare*, and which are
 now as pertinent to us, the *Author* thus proceeds a-
 gain, p. 13.

What makes you, and our *Army* now to be
 So jealous of each other, as we see,
 But that *Self-love* and *Pride* which you and they
 Pursue in others? and because each day
 You more and more in manners grow like them
 Whose *guiltiness* you rail at, and condemn?
 For most of those among you who pretend
 To *Reformation*, do but seek to mend
 Some faults in other men, that they to make
 Themselves thereby, may an advantage take.
 When zealously they labour to remove
 A *Tyrant*, it proceeds but from *Self-love*,
 That they may by possessing of his *Room*,
 As active in like *Tyrannies* become;
 As 'twere not probable that we should see
 Suppressed *Tyrants* ev'ry day to be
 Outvi'de by their *Successors*; and outgone
 By those who blamed most what they had done.
 'Tis not because you seek the *Publick Good*,
 That you renew this *Warre*; for, *letting blood*
 (Especially now when the *Dog-star* reigns)
 So near unto the heart, and in those *veins*
 Now likely to be op'ned, seems to me
 Not *Physick*, but meer *Butchery* to be.

'Tis not for GOD that you do now promote
 This *Quarrel*; for you know that GOD is *Love*:
 And, when he doth engage us in a *War*,
 It alwayse evidently doth appear
 How it conduceth to the preservation
 Of *Amity* and *Union* in a *Nation*;
 And, that we cannot otherwayes avoid
 The Consequence of being quite destroy'd,
 With all that's dear unto us: But in this,
 Of such a *Common Good* no Sign there is, &c.

All your *Contentions* rather do arise
From *fleshy Lusts*, and carnal vanities,
Then from the *Cause* pretended; and there's none
Will doubt it, if you wilfully go on
In bloodshed, not endeavouring for Grace,
By making *Fury* give *Discretion* place.
'Tis not the *errors*, or the imperfections
Of your *Opinions*, but of your *Affections*,
Which heighten *Discord*, and a will to please
Backsliding *Demas*, and *Diotrophes*,
Which hath surpris'd you. 'Tis a disregard
Of *Justice* in *Chastisements*, and *Reward*;
And that *respect* of *Persons* which each side
Is guilty of, if both be not bely'd.

For if by *Symptomes* we the truth may gather,
The *City* and the *Army* too had rather
Adventure their *safe being*, by denial
Of yeelding up their *Minions* to a trial,
Then to permit that *Justice* should proceed
Impartially. Both are, it seems, agreed,
Whatever their *Well-willers* do propose
To save their *Malefactors*, though they lose
Themselves and all their *Tribe*, (as for that *Crime*
The *Benjamites* did once in former time)
And (which more aggravates) ev'n thus they do,
Though they have seen the *King* for doing so,
Sit half beside his *Throne*; yea, though they see
This *Parliament* endangered to be
Ev'n for the self-same fault. So hard a thing
It is ev'n for the best of men, to bring
Their *Will*, and their *Affections* to submit
To *Justice*, though they cannot fly from it.

We will add no more, but leave the rest to be
perused in the Printed Copy, to avoid tediousness.

Letters of Advice touching the Election of
Knights, Citizens and Burgesſes in
PARLIAMENT.

Imprinted 1644.

Among other things offered by this Author to be heeded, as pertinent to the Common Welfare, he published a Book ſo called, touching the Choice of Knights and Burgeſſes, to repreſent the Commons in Parliament, and other Publick Miniſters; to which purpoſe he offered ſomewhat in his Perpetual Parliament, mentioned in this Review. Therefore this being overlarge to be wholly inſerted, no more ſhall be here added, but ſome part of what is therein contained, in relation to the due Qualification both of the Electors, and Perſons to be Elected which perhaps will give occaſion of better heeding what hath been heretofore neglected. It was thus expreſſed, pag. 2, in Proſe.

Being woefully experienced in the manifold Miſchiefs whereinto this Nation hath been plunged by the Corruption or Inſufficiency of Perſons heretofore choſen (or preſumptuouſly intruding upon that *Truſt*) and perceiving no publick means provided for preventing the like Miſchief hereafter, nor any thereto privately contributing his Advice, I have haſtily ſent abroad theſe *Letters*, not arrogating a ſufficiency to give ſuch directions as may not be expected againſt, but rather in hope it would give occaſion

casion to some of *better Judgment* to perfect what I have imperfectly begun according to my Talent :

Lest by that Course which we at present run,
Both *Good* and *Bad* together be undone.

That my Proposals may be the more willingly entertained and prosecuted , I will briefly offer to heed, first, The *Mischiefs* we incur by inconsiderate *Elections*, and how traiterous thereby we are to our *Countrey*, and to our *selves*. Secondly, I will present you with the necessary *Qualifications* of those who are to be *Elected*. And lastly , By what *Expedient* I conceive Abuses in that kind may be best prevented, if we are not grown so corrupt a Body, that we neither will nor can be represented by honest and discreet persons.

I need not particularize into how many *Mischiefs* this *Nation* is now, and hath been heretofore plunged by the rottenness and giddiness of some formerly chosen to represent the *Commonalty*; or how perfidiously they have disserted or betrayed their *trust*, to an endangering of our being everlastingly exposed to the slavery of temporal and spiritual Tyrannies, no less accursed and intollerable then the *Egyptian Bondage*: For, we give them power not onely to make us *Slaves*, *Beggars* , and liable to the *Hangman* at their pleasure ; but to subject us also unto those *Decrees* which may (gradatim) bring us or our *Posterity* to be *Papists*, *Turks*, *Pagans* , and *Vassals to the Devil* , if the Professors of *Popery* , *Turcism*, or of any other damnable Impieties should obtain a temporal *Sovereignty* over us. If this you believe not to be possible , (because not yet come
to

to pass) believe at least, that which you see of their practise and condition who have been unworthily and unwarrantably chosen; and how far they have already brought back upon us those *Antichristian Slaveries* which we thought past fear of reviving.

But perhaps *Mischiefs* and *Inconveniences* of less concernment will stir up some to be more cautious in their *Elections* than these. Let such take notice, That by heedlessness in this duty, they shall make *Fools* and *Tyrants* Lords over them, who will fawn and court them, till they are in Power, and then scorn and trample them under foot; putting such immeasurable differences between themselves and others, as if the respect due to the whole *Nation*, were due to their single *Persons*. And they will then so take upon them, and so demean themselves, as if to favour the *Clients*, to suppress those whom they *disaffect*, to strengthen their own *Faction*, and to maintain their *Usurped Personal Priviledges* (though to the utter ruine both of all *Publick Liberties*, and true *Piety*) were the chief End of their *Power*; What good can be expected from such a *Choice*? or what *better Choice* can be made, unless you more seriously, more prudently, and more conscientiously manage your *Elections*?

When *Wolves* are by the *Sheep* for Guardians chose,

Who marvels if their *Skins* and *Lives* they lose.

The onely means in *Humane Prudence* to be delivered from such mischiefs, is by humbly supplicating

Di-

Divine Mercy by truly repenting our sins, and by taking more heed hereafter, that we be not Traitors to our selves, in foolishly giving the dispose of our Estates, Lives, Liberties, and Consciences, to them who will sell us for old Shooes; and serve us onely to serve their own turns, though to our destruction. Therefore I beseech you to be wary whom you shall now and hereafter *Elect*; and make us not irrecoverably unhappy, by listning to the *Insinuations* of unworthy persons, who will importune you by themselves and others, to put our *Bodies* and *Souls* into their hands; complying with all shews of *Curtisie* and *Humility*, till their purposes are obtained; and never afterward regard our *Petitions*, our *Cause*, our *Miseries*, or our *Persons*; but overlook us with such pride, as if they had neither received their Power from us, or for our *Welfare*; but meerly to exalt their own vanity, &c.

Therefore to remedy *present Evils*, and to establish your just *Privileges*, for preservation of the *Common Interest* hereafter, let your care be to avoid the choice of such as these:

I. *Men overlavish in speaking*, and in taking extraordinary pleasure in hearing themselves talk; for a man full of words is neither good to give, or keep *Counsel*.

II. *Notorious Gamesters*; for, I never knew a prudent or just man, a *Common Gamester*: How can they be just, whose practise is to cheat other men of their Estates? Or prudent managers of publick *Treasure*, who expose their own Estates to the uncertain hazard of *Chance*?

III. *Men*

III. *Men much addicted to Hunting or Hawking*; for most of these, so they may preserve and encrease their *Game*, and enlarge Priviledges for their own pleasure, will not much care though it were to the depopulating of the *Countrey*, and to the multiplying of wild Beasts destructive to the *Nation*.

IV. *The Household Servants*, or dependants on such *Peers*, as expect from their *Creatures* the promotion of their own *Designs* and *Interest*, how repugnant soever to the *General Good*.

V. *Courtiers* depending meerly on the *King* or *Queens Service*; for the enlargement and continuance of their *Favour*, depend on that which they call *Royal Prerogative*; and the more that may be improved to an infringement of the *Subjects Right*, the richer and the more powerful these will grow.

VI. Chuse not such as are evidently *Ambitious* or *Covetous*; for how prone these will be to sell their *Countrey* and *Religion* too, for *Titular Honors* and *Wealth*, we have had too frequent experience.

“*The Peoples Trust and Freedoms to betray,*

“*To be a Lord is now the nearest way.*

VII. Elect not persons enslaved to *Wantonness*, and impudently persevering in *Carnal Uncleanesses*; for such will not onely give away your and their own *Estates* to satisfy their *Lusts*, but betray also their *Countrey*, and their *Saviour*, to please their *Dalilahs*.

VIII. Take

VIII. Take heed of chusing men *superlatively* proud: For they will be so puffed up with their *Legislatorship*, that after they have sate a while in the House, you will hardly know how to speak unto them, or of them, without being questioned either for transgressing against *good manners*, or for breach of their *Personal Priviledges*; which they prefer before the Priviledges of the whole *Nation*.

IX. Chuse not men over-much affected to *Popularity*, or factiously oppugning *Soveraignty*; for they will not be just or true to the Interest of *King* or *Peopl*; but so far onely as it may advance their own *Will*.

X. Chuse none generally reputed *vicious in any kind*; for they will be open or secret Opposers of all *Laws* or *Ordinances* restraining Enormities, and hinderers of bringing *Delinquents* to condign punishment.

XI. Make not choice of *Irreligious persons*, or such as are inclined to *ancient Superstitions*, or *modern Novelties*; for these will not willingly assent to the establishment of ought save what may advance their private *Fancies*.

For how can he affect true *Reformation*,
Who neither hath right *Rule* or *firm foundation*?

XII. Make not choice of *Children under Age*, for we ought not to commit the management of the most weighty Affairs of the *Commonwealth* to them who are not capable by *Law* of disposing their own

A a

Estates;

Estates; especially seeing the major part of *Voices*, (which an ignorant Child may help to make up) will be sufficient sometimes to confirm a Resolution to the *Publike Damage*.

XIII. Chuse not *Persons Outlaw'd*; or so far indebted, that they dare not walk abroad without a *Protection*; for what can be more unjust; then to let them sit as *Law-makers*; who submit not to the *Laws* in force, and to render the *Fountain of Justice* obstructive unto it self.

XIV. Lastly, Avoid the choice of those who make means to have themselves chosen; for it discovereth so much arrogance and self-conceit, that they are worthy to be rejected; and doubtless they more intend that which may advantage themselves, then to be serviceable to their *Countrey*. The *Deliverers* of GOD's People in distress, were such as modestly fought rather to put off, then to intrude upon *Publick Employments*; yea, *Saul* was fitter to reign when he hid himself among the stuff, then when he took care to be honoured before the people.

“ *The cursed Bramble fought not to be chose*

“ *The King of Trees, till they did him propose.*

There were also some *Proposals* and *Caveats* concerning those who are *Electors*, and as touching the making choice by *Lot*; to the perusal whereof you are referred in the *Original Tract*.

A Cause Allegorically Stated.

Imprinted 1657.

THis was published among other things, during *Oliver Cromwell's* Reign, with an Appeal therein to all Impartial Censurers.

A Goodly Ship, with precious Lading fraught,
Late in a dark night, nigh to Land was brought.
Through many dangers, & much blustering weather,
GOD's Providence had safely brought her thither;
And by the Waters motions, and the humming
Among the Shrouds, another storm seem'd coming.

The Place arriv'd at, was a dangerous Bay,
From which, into the Port, two Channels lay,
Divided by a Quick-sand, with great store
Of Shelves, and sharp Rocks upon either shore.
She had a choice Commander, Merchants many,
Stout Seamen, Pilots too, as good as any;
With Passengers of all sorts, among whom
Some could (had need been) have suppli'd the room
Of well-experienc'd Seamen, and advis'd
Such things as Prudence would not have despis'd.
But these, among themselves divided were, (steer;
Through which of those two Channels they should
One Party thinking that the safest way,
In which the other thought most danger lay;
And in the dark it could not well be seen
In which the greatest hazard would have been.

Nor were they in less hazard to lye there
At Anchor, till the *day-light* did appear.

A poor *old man* was at that time aboard,
To whom GOD had been pleased to afford
A *Faculty* to see things in the dark,
Which others could not view, or did not mark :
He knowing what great streights the *Ship* was in,
(And what their loss was likely to have been)
Call'd out to those who there had *chief Command*,
And said, *There stands a Rock*, here lyes a *Sand* ;
Another yonder; and a *Whirl-pool* there:
Be ver'y careful therefore how ye steer ;
Bear up a little while into the *Wind*,
(Although a shew of danger there you find)
And take heed that a causeless *fear* or *doubt*,
Makes you not over-soon to *Tack about*,
Lest in the way you strike upon a steep
Sharp *Ridge*, and ever-set into the *Deep*.
First, on the *Starboard-side* a compass fetch
Half way to yon *Point*, to avoid that *Breach*;
And then upon the *Starboard-side* again
Wheel off, and you the *Harbour* shall attain.

Thus spake the *old man*, for although 'twere night,
He saw as well as when the Sun gives light;
And they who had a willingness thereto,
Did that which he advis'd them to do.
The *greater part* not heeding what they heard,
(Nor knowing their own danger) grin'd and jeer'd,
And from the *Hatches* crept into the *Held*,
Leaving the *Ship* to what befall it should.

But they who more desir'd to have their *Will*,
Then to be counsell'd, whether *well* or *ill* ;
Disdaining (as it were) to be advis'd
(Though for their weal, by one whom they despis'd,
Did

Did not alone pursue him with despight,
But with *Oppressions* also him requite :
Now therefore, in what this man stands oblig'd
To those, let it impartially be judg'd :
And whether such as they deserve not all
Those *Plagues* which now are feared may befall,
Till that *Ingratitude* they shall repent,
Which justly merits that sad *Consequent*.

This is a *Case* (though heeded but of few)
To some known, as exprest here, to be true.

MERCURIUS RUSTICUS.

Imprinted without Date.

THis was composed in or about the first year after the late unhappy Warre between the King and Parliament, in imitation of the Weekly Intelligencers, then published; being a Rustick Discourse, offering between jest and earnest, some particulars to consideration, relating both to Civil and Military Transactions, and hinted Notions then pertinent to those Times, and not wholly impertinent to these. But no more of it shall be here inserted save the beginning of the Book; and that also to no other purpose, but to distinguish it from a Book of the same Title, published by another man; which this Author now having seen, is unwilling to have it imputed to him, (as he hath heard it is) how worthy soever it may seem to be owned. His Book (which he thinks none will be ambitious to father) thus begins.

By

By your leave *Gentlemen*; when *seriousness* takes not effect, perhaps *trifling* may. Every man hath some *Toyes* in his head; and I have too many. One will now discover it self, which hath itched in it ever since last night. *Mars* had lately tired me with long *Marches* and *Skirmishes*. *Jupiter* hath cast such ill *Aspects* upon me, that I cannot be *jovial*. The *Moon* is in the *wain*; *Venus* *retrograde*; *Apollo* would not lend me his *Fiddle* to prevent my being oppressed with *Melancholly* by the *Influences* of *Saturn*; and therefore I compli'd with *Mercury* in making a *Rustick Progress*, and (now understanding that variety of *News* is much desir'd) I am bold to present you with such gleannings as I gathered up in the *Countrey*.

And though I am not so witty as my Friend *Britannicus*; nor bring you *Narratives* that so well deserve the *Whetstone* as Monsieur *Anlicus*; nor come so furnished with *Novelties* as Master *Civicus*; nor so supply'd with *Passages* as the *Weekly Intelligencer*; nor am at leisure to sum up all *Occurrences*, as the *Accomptant*; nor so large in *Promises* as the *Scout*, the *Informers*, and the rest of your diligent *Mercuries*; nor so impudent as to aver I present you with nothing but *Truth*: Yet I have brought you that with which you may perhaps be for once well contented to read or hear, though they be but such gatherings as I had from the *Mill*, the *Alcouse*, the *Smiths Shop*, or the *Barbers*; for these are our *Countrey Exchanges*, wherein we talk of a many things with as little good success as they do at *Westminster*; and otherwhile also to as ill, and to as good purposes.

This

This being sufficient to distinguish his from the other Book bearing the same *Title*, no more shall be here inserted.

What Peace to the Wicked.

Imprinted 1646.

THis is an *Expostulatory Answer* to a *Derisory Question* concerning Peace; and here is with little omission inserted, because it was so long ago Imprinted, that it cannot be easily procured.

One who hath seldom in these dayes,
From Fool or Knave got love or praise,
(And who by many men is known
With chearfulness to have bestown
His Wit, Pains, Person and Estate,
The Common Right to vindicate)
A long Imprisonment hath had
For calling of a Spade a Spade,
Which (if a Court-Card) might have been
Next to the King, except the Queen.

While he in that Confinement lay,
One asked him the other day,
When he suppos'd this War should end,
And what successes would attend
Our hopes of Peace: Which Question tho
From Levity it seem'd to flow,
(Or scoffingly to be express'd)
Receiv'd this Answer not in jest.

Wh.

Why ask ye when this *War* will cease,
 And when this *Kingdom* shall have *Peace*,
 As if you thought I could foreshew
 All that hereafter shall ensue?

Or, as if when the Truth were told,
 You value or believe it could,
 Who nor esteem nor use have made
 Of those *Fore-warnings* which you had?

They who will know what shall succeed,
 Must of *things past* take serious heed;
 And glean *Instructions* whilst they may,
 From actions of the *present day*:
 For, *past* and *present time* declares
 What for the *future* GOD prepares;
 And, till these quicken their *fore-sights*,
 Men sit in darkness till he smites.

If to this *Question* you would know
 An *Answer* which for *Truth* may go,
 (And not with *Ahab-like Desires*)
 Wish all your *Prophets* may be *Lyars*:
 Then ask your *Consciences*, and they
 Will tell what things expect you may;
 For, let my *Troubles* never cease,
 If ever you have other *Peace*
 Then what your *Conscience* might foresee,
 Though *King* and *Parliament* agree.

But lest the *Conscience* may be fear'd,
 Or lest *Delusions* have appear'd,
 Which promise *Peace* when she is fled,
 (And *Vengeance* hanging over head)
 Ask your own *Fears* and *Human Reason*,
 What they conjecture of the *season*.
 Ask them what sign it is of *Peace*,
 When *Wickedness* doth more encrease?

What

What may be hop'd for, of that Nation
 That flights her day of *Visitation*;
 That mendeth not for words or blows,
 That in *Reforming*, worser grows;
 That suffers them who serve her best,
 To be most wronged and opprest;
 And on them ev'ry Token hath
 Of *Desolation*, and of *Wrath*?

What *Peace* can we expect, whilst they
 Who spoiled us, not onely may
 Find *Mercy* (which we could allow)
 But, so imperious also grow,
 As to reproach them to their faces,
 (Ev'n in their Priviledged places)
 Who once thought better Fruits would come
 From that which they had parted from?
 What likelihood is there that *Peace*
 Will follow, when your *Friends* decrease,
 And they who serv'd you heretofore,
 Shall be as *mad* as they are *poor*?

If yet you cannot well discern
 When *Peace* will back again return;
 Get knowledge timely, if you may,
 What *Game* you are about to play;
 How far you have as yet to run
 That *Wild-Goose-Chase* of late begun:
 What can be hoped for of those
 Who are irrationally Foes:
 What you in safety can propound,
 Where little save *Deceit* is found:
 Or, what good *Harvest* can be mown,
 Where *mischief* onely hath been sown:
 For, when these things are truly weigh'd,
 What will succeed, needs not be said.

Get knowledg, if ye can, how long
Divisions will be rais'd among
 The *Lords* and *Commons*; and when we
 Shall find both *Houses* to agree,
 That to the *Publike* detriment,
 Nor *House* nor *Member* shall dissent,
 Or be united, but insist
 Upon the *Common Interest* :
 For, you have heard what Lot betides
 A *House* or *Kingdom* that divides :
 And know what's likely to succeed,
 Till our *Peace-makers* are agreed.

If walle *Jerusalem* was made,
 Who therein but *Three Factions* had :
 This *Island* how may we deplore,
 Wherein are *Three times three*, and more ?
 Some with the *Parliament* partake ;
 Some for the *King* a Party make :
 Some would a *Popular Estate* :
 Some *Aristocracy* create :
 Some are a Faction for the *Pope* :
 Some to maintain the *Prelates* hope :
 Some for the *Presbyterians* vote :
 Some *Independency* promote :
 Some strive for *this*, and some for *that* :
 Some neither know, nor care not what,
 So *War* goes on, and get they may
Free-Quarter, *Plunder*, and their *Pay*.
 Some fight their *Liberties* to save,
 Some, that they others may enslave.
 Some for *Religion*, and for *Christ*,
 Some that they may do what they list :
 Some for the *Commonwealths* avail,
 Some for *Themselves* with tooth and nail ;

And

And they who have the basest end,
 As fairly as the best pretend :
 Not caring whether their desire
 Obtained be by *Sword* or *Fire*,
 By *Truth* or *Lyes*, with *Love* or *Hate*,
 By *Treachery*, or *fair Debate* :
 This is our *Posture*; and whilst we
 So *foolish*, *false*, and *factious* be ;
 Or, whilst it shall continue thus,
 Who knows what will become of us ?

Ask those who now of *Peace* do dream,
 Who shall procure the same for them,
 Since many are become their *Foes*,
 Whom they to be their *Champions* chose;
 Since they our Substance have bestown,
 To make *new Fortunes* of their own ;
 And *Publike Injuries* encrease,
 To gain themselves a *private Peace*.
 Yea, since the *People* doubtings have
 What to *refuse*, or what to *crave*,
 Do still irresolute abide,
 Long constant unto neither side;
 Not in themselves resolved are,
 Whether they would have *Peace* or *War*,
 Or whether readmit they shall
Charles to be King, or *not at all* ;
 For, doubtless if thus matters go,
 (As many now much fear they do)
 A *wise man* needs not break his brain,
 To search what *Peace* we shall obtain,
 Since whilst thus blind and mad we be,
 What will ensue, a *Fool* may see.

Yet lest you may be fooled more,
 Then either now, or heretofore,

Ob.

B b 2

And

Observe the *Commons*, if of them
 None serve *two Masters* at a time;
 Nay, whether none among them be,
 Who *Servants* are this day to *Three*,
 And false to all; observe of those
 Whom we for Publike service chose,
 How many fail the *Peoples Trust*,
 To *private persons* how unjust
 They are; how little good effect
 The *King* or *People* can expect,
 Concerning *Peace*, while such as they
 The *Cunning Ambodexters* play.

Ask them who sit to take *Accounts*,
 To what their two years pains amounts?
 Or, what the *Commonwealth* it betters,
 When they have found who are her debtors;
 If when their falshood shall be known,
 (And published throughout the Town)
 A *Cheating Shark* may outface them
 Who justly have convicted him,
 And be employed as before,
 Or else where he may cheat us more.
 Ask if they have not pow'r to call
 As well the great *Thieves*, as the small,
 To give accompt; those whom we hear
Cumprivilegio, as it were,
 Have plundered at an easie rate,
Coin, Jewels, Household-stuff and *Plate*:
 And if you find they have not leave
 To question all men who deceive
 The *Publike Trust*; know we are yet
 For *Peace* with *Righteousness* unfit.

Then mark what *Favours* many have,
 Who fought this *Nation* to enslave;

How

How some exposed are to scorn,
Who of this *War* the brunt have born;
And having heedfully survey'd
How *Good* with *Evil* is repay'd,
Mind well the *Doctrine*, and the *Use*,
And what that may at last produce.

Enquire moreover how you find
To works of *Mercy* men inclin'd;
How *honest Causes* are prefer'd,
How griev'd *Petitioners* are heard;
How *Offices* conferred be;
Whether some have not *two or three*,
Who for the *Publike* neither spent,
Nor gave, nor hazarded, nor lent,
When many better men had none,
Who in your service were undone.

Observe those *Pensions* how you share,
Which for *Relief* allotted are;
How little *best deservers* get,
How many of them not a whit;
How often *ill*, how seldom *well*
Rewards and *Punishments* you deal;
Which are the *Pillars* whereon stand
The *Peace* and *Honour* of the Land.

Observe, if when we spend a day
In *praises*, or to *fast* and *pray*,
If more *Hypocrisie* therein,
Then *true Devotion*, hath not bin:
If *Preaching* tend not more to *strife*,
Then to *sound Doctrine*, or *good Life*:
If more we seek not to fulfil
Our *sensual humours*, and our *will*,
Then to perform a *Thank-oblation*,
Or duties of *Humiliation*:

Or if the *Worship* we profess,
Be not an *Outside Holiness*,
No deeper rooted then the tongue,
Or fruits that fade as soon as sprung :
For, as it proveth when you see
These things to tryal brought shall be,
You may without much failing guess
What likelihood there is of *Peace*.

An ear, an eye sometimes too have ye
Upon the *Army* and the *Navy*;
An eye severely to behold,
An ear to hear what hath been told
Of some who much entrusted were,
With *Stores*, *Arms*, and *Provisions* there;
Or had *Commissions* to *Array*,
To furnish, fortifie and pay
Ships, Forts or Men; and those in chief,
Employ'd for *Ireland's* first relief,
And your first *Armies*; (ev'n when all
Did lye at stake, and seem to call
For faithful, stout and honest men)
Observe how they discharged then
The *Trust* repos'd; how some were made
Commanders, Pay and Titles had,
But scarce a Man : How others now
Defraud the *Publ'k*; and if you
(As Fame reports) among them find
Deceit in this accursed kind,
Excuse not them; yea, though at last,
Acts of Oblivion should be past
For open *Fees*, no Grace provide
For men untrue to their *own side*;
Lest, as your *Peace* they have deser'd,
They marr it likewise afterward :

For,

For, where, employed such are found
When *Peace* is made, 'twill not be found.

Enquire (if you can tell of whom
To make Enquiry) what's become
Of all the *Publike Protestations*,
Engag'd for *private Reparations*;
What of that *Vow* which did profess
A mutual Aid in all distress:
What of the *self-denying Vote*,
Which goodly Hopes in us begor:
What of those *Orders* whereupon
Some trusted till they were undone.
What of the *Publike Faith*, in which
We thought our selves exceeding rich,
Though all were lost, so that remain'd
Inviolated, and unstain'd.
Enquire (I say) throughout the Land,
In what condition these now stand;
For, when of these you have obtain'd
That Certainty which may be gain'd,
It will undoubtedly appear
What we may either *hope* or *fear*.
Enquire yet further (lest you may
Expect perhaps a Sun-shine day,
And meet a Storm) in what good mind
That sort of People you shall find,
Ycleep'd the *Clergy*, for the stem
Of our late Troubles, was in them.
Their *Factions*, *Envy* and *Pride*,
Did first of all these *Isles* divide:
From them at first, the *Fire-brands* came,
That set this Empire in a flame:
When 'twas nigh quench'd again, they blew
Those coals which did the flame renew.

The

The *Nations* they did re-engage,
The Peoples vexed minds enrage,
By feigned *Wiles*, and false pretences,
Abusing tender Consciences :
The *Course* long since by them begun,
Is to this day continued on :
And therefore take this Truth for me,
(For you shall find it Truth to be)
That till you see these much estrang'd
From what they are, their posture chang'd,
Till they shall better their Conditions,
Confine themselves to their *Commissions*,
Leave off to jangle, fool and fiddle
With what they should not intermeddle,
And be as pious, and as wise,
As they are outwardly precise,
(Or, as those few among them are,
For whose sakes GOD abates this *War*)
Nor *King*, nor *Peers*, the *Commons* neither,
Nor these united altogether,
Shall able be that *Peace* to make,
Which their *Contentions* will not shake.

Make one Enquiry more to see
And search what most of those men be
On whose Endeavours you depend,
To bring our troubles to an end.
Mark how their Duties they attend
In private, how their time they spend:
What Company they most frequent,
What matters give them best content :
What by their *neighbors* they were thought,
Till they obtained what they sought;
And to what purpose they employ
The *Pow'r* and *Places* they enjoy.

Then

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Then cast an eye upon the *Rabble*,
 And, taking view (if you be able)
 Of all together, great and small,
 Mark well the *Tantamount* of all.
 Mark if we be not like an *Hoast*
 That's routed when the Battel's lost.
 And if we deal not gifts and blows,
 Like mad men, both to *Friends* and *Foes*.
 Mark how those *Hypocrites*, who here
 Promoters of the Truth appear,
 Walk in their *Masking Suits* abroad,
 As if they thought to cozen GOD
 As they do men; mark too, that *Crew*,
 Which is *prophane* in open view,
 How blindly, and how daringly
 (Ev'n where GOD's Thunderbolts do flye)
 They still offend; and whether we
 May not to them compared be,
 Who sawing are those *Planks* asunder,
 Whereon they stand, when *Hell* is under.

When these Enquiries you have made,
 To see what light may thence be had;
 And, when you know as well as I,
 Those hind'rances, and Reasons why
 That *Voice of Peace* yet goes not on
 Which this time twelve Months was begun;
 And, shall observe with due regard,
 What hath been since *done*, and *declar'd*;
 It will disclose a great deal more,
 Then I have told you heretofore:
 But not till then. Yet lest some may
 Despair or faint before that day,
 I will deliver, ere you go,
 A comfortable word or two.

' There may be *Peace* at last, though yet
 ' We nor know how, nor merit it :
 ' For GOD oft shews great *Mercies* where
 ' The greatest of all *Sinners* are.
 ' And, if *Self-seekers* be descri'de,
 ' Before this *Isle* they more divide ;
 ' If *Factions*, wrongs, and discontent,
 ' Endanger not this *Parliament* ;
 ' And if the *Faithful Members* can
 ' But cast out from them now and then
 ' A *Trouble-house*, and timely swage
 ' The vexed Peoples rising rage,
 ' By offering out of their *Committees*
 ' (What reign in *Counties, Towns* and *Cities*)
 ' But two or three such *Peace-oblations*,
 ' As that was of th' *EXAMINATIONS*,
 ' And by their *Prudence* act it so
 ' That *benefit* more priz'd may grow ;
 ' That *Priest* and *People* down may lay
 ' The works of *Stubble* and of *Hay*,
 ' Their *Names* and *Terms* of *Separation*,
 ' And meekly seek the preservation
 ' Of *Truth* in *Love* : Then in one year
 ' If *Peace* be not establish'd here,
 ' My *Loans* and *Losses* yet unpaid,
 ' With my *Arrears* three years delay'd,
 ' I'll forfeit wholly to the *State*,
 ' And live still as I do of late,
 ' By swallowing wrongs and empty Air,
 ' And *Patience* kept through *faith* and *pray'r*.

Thus to the *Question* made. you have
 That *Answer* which your *Prsuer* gave,

Who

Who other *News* will tell, if he
Much longer shall a *Pris'ner* be.

Your *Spaniels* beaten, at your feet will lie,
Your *English Mastives* at your face will flie.
Remember that also.

An ADDRESS to the Members of
PARLIAMENT in their
single Capacities.

Imprinted 1657.

THE Author having been compelled to make use
of such Extravagant Means as this, during the
sitting of the Long Parliament and thereby left unre-
lieved; Was constrained to prosecute the like ordinary
and extraordinary Expedients during those Parlia-
ments which were called by Oliver Cromwel, and his
Successor; among which, this was one, left at their
Threshold, thus superscribed, To that Member of
Parliament who shall take up this Paper.

SIR, if you are not of this Parliament,
Hereby to greet you, 'tis not my intent.
But, if a Member of this House you are,
Your taking up these Papers (as it were
By Lot) engageth you to manage those
Petitions, which I therewith did inclose,
As you would have another use his Pow'r
For your avail, if now my Case were your :

Whereof take this *Account* why I thus play
My Cards refus'd, in this unusual way.

I shall hereby at least guess at the length
 Of my Oppressions, or how well my strength
 May be improv'd to bear them; how *Contracts*,
Sales, *Bargains*, and your other *Publike Acts*
 Will be perform'd; That as I by presage
 Of many things to come, foretold *this Age*
 Before fulfill'd; so I might likewise tell
 The *next Age* what I saw done *ill or well*.
 I have oft wooed you to entertain
 My just *Requests*, but hitherto in vain;
 Though I have many sev'ral ways assay'd,
 To gain respect to what was humbly pray'd.
 Now therefore, having at your door attended
 Six Months at least together unbefriended;
 And seeing to obstruct me, ev'ry day
New Suitors so encrease to stop the way,
 That I had little hope with Friends to meet
 To *hand* this in, I laid it at your feet
 Who pass in thither, hoping that it may
 For an Admission make the quicker way,
 And not be kept here waiting at your Gate,
 Till hearing and relief shall come too late.

He who shall take this up, and get it read,
 Where it shall with respect be answered,
 An *Obligation* will (by doing so)
 Impose both upon me, and many more:
 For, if my *Suits* obtain deserved heed,
 Some other will have hope as well to speed,
 Who now almost despair Relief to have,
 And, future *Cost* and trouble I shall save.

Three *Parliaments* (the eldest of which three
 Might, had it pleas'd our Lord, have outliv'd me)

Are

Are dead and gone, since first I did complain
Of *Grievances*, which unredrest remain :
And now to see a Fourth I have surviv'd,
Which I fear hath it *self* almost outliv'd,
Unless GOD grant it *Pow'r* and *Will* to do
What they in duty are oblig'd unto ;
That they from wrongs the wronged may release,
Proceed with *Honour*, and conclude in *Peace*.

To such *Settlements* there's a *middle way*
'Twixt *This* and *That*; 'twixt *Haste* and *long delay* :
Which if mistaken, or not timely found ,
May (as it hath done) lead into a *Rund*,
(Or Labyrinth) whereby we may be brought
To *Pits* and *Snares*, which have no passage out,
And multiply distractions, till our *Pray'rs*
Are turn'd to *Indignation*, or *Despairs* ;
Which is their drift, and not their least *Design*,
Who seek our *Liberties* to undermine.

When *Publike Wants* with speed must be suppl'd,
A *Private Complaint* may then be laid aside,
But not too long defer'd, lest it become
A *festring sore*, not meanly perillsome.
For since an *universal Weal* consists
Of many *Individual Interests*,
A perfect Body cannot be enjoy'd,
Where one by one the Members are destroy'd,
And when the *Eye* or *Ear* unheedful grows
Of what afflicts the *Fingers* and the *Toes* :
Much less when they neglect what appertains
To keep it from an Ulcer in the *Brains*.

The *Cures* therefore, of *private Wants* , betwixt
Publike Transactions, should be intermixt
(At least sometimes) in those emergent things,
Wherein delay of *Justice*, losses brings

Beyond

Beyond *Repair* ; or when the *State* at last
Must bear the damage, when the *Care* is past ;
Or else in point of *Honour*, suffer more
Then all the *Publike Treasure* will restore.

I grudge not, when *GOD's Glory* is at stake,
That they who of his *Honour Conscience* make,
Should take the freedom to debate at large
What may their duties unto him discharge,
Or, when the *Common Safety* doth appear
In hazard, though my *Life* in danger were :
But, when those brunts are over, if men please
For their meer *pleasure, profit, or their ease*,
To leave us in a perishing condition,
Then of their *Faithfulness* they give suspicion,
And I more griev'd for what I thereby see
Befalls my *Country*, then for wrongs to me.

There's time enough in all *streight* whatsoe're,
For all things, if it well divided were :
And, for our not *opportioning* aright
The *Time* we have, (as wise men know we might)
GOD cuts off half the *dayes* we should have had,
And our *Designments* are abortive made.
As we from week to week, from day to day,
Do put off those who for our sorrows pray,
So likewise we our hopes and suits put by
By him on whose *Assistance* we relye.
An *hour* therefore, should other-while be spent
To give *Reward*, as well as *Punishment* :
As well to make *Repayments*, as to *borrow* :
To think on them who help us in our sorrow,
We are oblig'd, and forth our fruits to bring
In season, like trees planted by a Spring ;
Not nine or ten years after they are dead,
(Who by our timely fruit should have been fed)

Left

Lest we be felled by the *Wood-man's* hand,
Or, like the *Fig-tree*, wither where we stand.

One day is as well spar'd sometimes to save
An *honest man*, as nine to doom a *Knave*.
Of useful *Plants* we should have as much care,
As from the good *Corn* to weed out a *Tare*.
Some *private acts* of *Justice*, with our zeal
To *Picty*, and to the *Publike weal*;
And *works of Mercy* sprinkled here and there
Among them, like *Embroyd'ers* would appear
On *Flowers of Gold*, with *Silver* interwove,
And helpful be your *Grand Work* to improve.
But, where few *Private Grievances* are heard,
God gives their *Publike Prayers* small regard;
And few are in that *Commonwealth* much joy'd,
By whom their whole *well-being* is destroy'd;
Or which is senseless of their sad estate
Who did help save it from a sadder *Fate*.

Among such *Sufferers*, I my self am one,
Who gladly would be better thought upon;
I have as many years already spent,
As are to two mens lives equivalent,
To seek for *Justice*, with such cost, such trouble,
And loss of time, as makes my *Losses* double.
So that if but one *Suit* more at this Rate
I had depending, ten times my *Estate*,
And ten mens lives, would not afford me time
And means enough, whereby to finish them:
For, my *Petitions* either were defer'd
From month to month, from year to year unheard,
Or answer'd so, that when my *Suit* seem'd done,
My *Case* prov'd worse then when it first begun:
And to obstruct the *Justice* I implore,
They voice me to be rich, who make me peer.

With

With *mock-shews* of *Relief* I have been fed,
 With stones in my distress, instead of bread,
 Which had ere this day starv'd me, but that GOD
 Turn'd many of them into wholesome food,
 And rais'd me a subsistence out of that
 Which was design'd to ruine my Estate.
 If I who had a few *Friends*, have thus far'd,
 Alas ! how speed poor men whom none regard ?
 And who from none can claim an obligation,
 Either by *Friendship*, *Faction*, or *Relation* ?
 But now new *Misadventures* me beset,
 Which by delay of *Justice* do beget
 Increasing Mischiefs, that admit no cure
 Save what must from a *Legislative Pow'r*
 Derived be; and this befallerh so
 Perhaps, that I in ev'ry Change may know
 The *gen'ral temper*, by the pulse that beats
 Both in *Superior* and *inferior Seats*;
 That I and other men may timely see
 How little confidence repos'd may be
 In *Lords* or *Commons*, *Parliaments* or *Kings*,
 Or in the best of all *Terrestrial things*;
 And that henceforth we might depend upon
 GOD's *Providence*, and upon *him alone*.

If this displease, it cannot make me more
 Expos'd to *sufferings*, then I was before.
 They who to neither *side*, nor *back*, nor further
 Can move themselves, need no *Restraint* by *Order* :
 Nor greatly be afraid what next will come,
 Their just *Resolvings* to divert them from :
 And that whereto *Necessities* compel,
 Is done *excusably*, though *not done well*.

If much *Oppression* cracks a *wise man's* brain,
Who knows whereto it may a *fool* constrain?
Or how it may the meekest men provoke
To that whereby the *Common Peace* is broke?
They whom delay of *Justice* doth make poor,
Do lose but their *Estates*, and may get more;
If otherwhile they are of *Life* depriv'd,
They feel not what to feel they might have liv'd:
But he who doth in life-time, thereby lose
Estate and *Credit*, shall to *Friends* and *Foes*
Become a scorn; whereat if mad he be,
And makes ten thousands grow as mad as he,
Who knows whereto it may at last extend,
Or what will thereon follow in the end?
The fault is theirs who without *Mercy* stretch
A weak man's *Patience* further then 'twill reach,
As if he of his *Sufferings*, sense had none,
Because they no more feel them, then a stone.

My *Principle* (for which I am abus'd)
Injoins me, when I scurvily am us'd,
Where I expect *Relief*, to show my wrongs,
And *Vengeance* leave, to whom the same belongs;
But all men cannot be content to stay
GOD's *leisure*; or, for *Justice* in his way:
And, what their *wants*, *Neglects*, and *Indignation*
May tempt them to, is worth consideration.
There is to all things an appointed date,
And they are *not wise*, who are *wise too late*.

' One sin remains unacted to the height,
' Which when compleat, will ruine all outright,
' And that is this, There are yet in the gap
' Some standing, who with life do yet escape;
' If these remov'd were, that *Abomination*
' Which next precedes an utter *Desolation*,

D d

' Will

' Will be set up; and then shall be inflicted
 ' At full, all those Plagues heretofore predicted.
 ' Oh God! prevent that *Grand*, that *fatal Guilt*,
 ' I humbly pray, and I believe thou wilt,
 ' By raising still to stand before thy face,
 ' An *acceptable number* in this place,
 ' For whose sake thou wilt spare it from the dooms
 ' Now threatned, till our great *Deliv'rer* comes;
 ' And keep them constant to true *self-denial*,
 ' *Faith*, *Love* and *Patience* in their *fiery trial*:
 ' For, nor *thine*, or *their Glory* it advances
 ' So much, as when they have *deliverances*
 ' From *Sufferings* in their height, and when they are
 ' Within a *burning Furnace*, as they were
 ' Who had it heated for them seven times more
 ' Then ere it was at any time before.

This, as were all this *Author's* other *Addresses*,
 were tendred to the late *Parliaments* without suc-
 cess, whether expressed in a *serious* or *extravagant*
Mode. And thereby perhaps the true constitution
 of those times will the better appear to the glori-
 fying of GOD's *Justice*; because the personal ex-
 perience which he had by feeling those oppressions
 whereof many others complained, were to him much
 more evidenced thereby to be real, then they could
 be, by what he seemed to see, or to hear onely by
 report.

H A L E L U J A H.

Or,

Britan's Second Remembrancer.

Imprinted 1641.

THis *First Part* of a Review of *Neglected Precautions, Predictions and Remembrances*, was begun with the *Author's* first Book, called *Britan's Remembrancer*; and this *Second Remembrancer* shall conclude it: For, though composed in a Mode much differing from the former, it was an *Expedient* which might have produced good Effects, had it not been as much neglected as all other good means are to this day. It is our duty to make *trial* of another way, when one fails; and the *Prophets* are herein exemplary to us, who often declared the same *Truths* in various dressings, and otherwhile in the same words, when the same or like *Occasions* were given. That Book containing Two hundred thirty three spiritual *Hymns* and *Songs*, is too large to be abbreviated; and therefore to instance the usefulness of the rest, here shall be inserted but two or three *Hymns* out of each Book, the first relating to particular *Occasions*; the second to *Times*; the third to *Persons*; that all men of all sorts, might be thereby minded of their Duties at all *Times*, and upon all *Occasions*, as appears by this brief *Narration*.

A Friend of the *Author's*, much affecting that *Expedient*, (as tending to the advance both of Mo-

D d 2

rality

rality and Virtue, distributed many of the Books among his Acquaintance, at his own cost, and recommended one of them to a Person of Quality, who loved *Song* and *Musick*; but before he had read two lines thereof, he rejected it with much contempt; whereupon the other somewhat grieved, asked the reason of his dislike, and received this Answer; Such a *Character* of it hath (said he) been given by a Learned and Pious *Divine*, upon whose Judgment I relye, that I will not lose time in perusing it. Yet at last being importuned, he took it up; and turning to a *Song* which was to him instanced as demonstrating the frothiness of all the rest, he began to read it aloud in slighting manner, and in a ridiculous Tone; but after the reading of a few lines, changing his voice, sate still a good space, perusing it in silence; then suddenly starting up, said thus to his Friend, I heartily thank you for this Book, and for importuning me to read it; I hope also, it shall teach me whilst I live, not to depend upon the Judgment of other men, (how religious or judicious soever they shall be reputed) in those things wherein I ought to use my own understanding as well as theirs. This is the effect of what was told the *Author*, and it is here inserted. in hope it may make some other as wise as that Gentleman.

The *Author* in his *Epistles* before the whole, and each particular Book of that Volume, hath expressed by way of *Preoccupat'on*, somewhat to prevent prejudice; and if it had been contemplatively and actually made use of according to his intention and proposals, might perhaps have reduced this *Generation* to a better temper than *Precepts* without *Practise* have effected; and made those vain *Songs* less
delight-

delighted in, which are become so numerous, and so affected, that pious *Meditations* are nigh quite out of fashion with many; for, not in private onely, but at publike Feasts and Meetings also, *scurrilous* and *obscene Songs* are impudently sung without respect to the presence of *Matrons*, *Virgins*, *Magistrates* and *Divines*; yea, sometimes are in their despite called for, sung, and acted with such abominable gesticulations, as are offensive to all modest hearers and beholders; and besitting onely the Solemnities of *Bacchus*, *Venus*, and *Priapus*; for the abolishing of which Abuse, the *Author* was a Petitioner that some provision might be made; and prepared also this *Expedient* to promote it; but the carnal prophaneſs of some, and the sullen Religiousness of others, who causlessly pretended a *Superstitious Design* to be therein couched, hath hitherto vacated both his hope and pious Endeavours, notwithstanding all his *Precautions*.

*An Occasional Hymn when we first awake
in the Morning.*

DEAR GOD! who watch dost keep
Round all that honour thee,
To thy Beloved givest sleep,
When Rest shall needful be.
My Soul returns thee praise,
That thus refresh'd I am,
And that my *Tongue* a Voice can raise,
To praise thee for the same.

2 As now my soul doth shake
 Dull sleep out of mine eyes,
 So let thy *Spirit* me awake,
 That I from *sin* may rise.
 The *Night* is past away,
 Which fill'd us full of fears,
 And we enjoy another *Day*,
 Wherein thy *Grace* appears.
 3 Oh! let me therefore shun
 All Errors of the *Night*;
 Thy *Righteousness* let me put on,
 And walk as in the *Light*.
 Protect me from his Pow'r,
 (Since I on thee relye)
 Who walks in *darkness* to devour,
 When our *long sleep* draws nigh.
 4 Grant when the *Trump* shall sound
 A summons from the *Grave*,
 My *Body* then may from the ground
 A blessed rising have.
 That whatsoe're the dreams
 Of my *Corruption* be,
 The *Vision* of thy glorious *Beams*
 May bring full joyes to me.

A Hymn when day-light appears.

Look forth mine eye, look up and view
 How bright the *day-light* shines on me;
 And, as the *Morning* doth renew,
 Mark how renew'd GOD's Mercies be.

Behold

Behold, the splendors of the *Day*
Disperse the shadows of the *Night*;
And, they who late in *darkness* lay,
Have now the Comfort of the *light*.

2 Nor *Twilight-Plagues*, nor *Midnight-fears*,
Nor mortal or immortal Foes,
Had pow'r to take us in their snares;
But safe we slept, and safe arose.

And to those *dayes* which we have had,
He that is Lord of *Day* and *Night*,
Another *Day* vouchsafes to add,
That our lost hours redeem we might.

3 It is too much to have made void
So many *dayes* already past;
Let this therefore be so employ'd,
As if we knew it were our last.

Most creatures now themselves advance,
Their *Morning-sacrifice* to bring;
The *Herd*s do skip, the *Flock*s do dance,
The *Winds* do pipe, the *Bird*s do sing.

4 Lord, why should these that were decreed
To serve thee in a *lower place*,
In thankful duties us exceed,
Who have obtained special *Grace*?
We are oblig'd much more than those,
Our *Voice* in thankfulness to raise;
Therefore, oh *GOD*! our *lips* uncloset,
And teach our *Tongues* to sing thy praise.

5 Let heart, and hand, and voice accord
This day to magnifie thy Name;

And

And let us ev'ry day, oh Lord!
 Endeavour to perform the same.

So, when that *Morning* doth appear,
 In which thou shalt all flesh destroy,
 We shall not then awake in *fear*,
 But rise to meet thy *Son* with joy.

A Hymn when we are putting on our
A P P A R E L.

LORD, had not man fought out by *sin*
 What was untimely known,
 His *nakedness* unfelt had bin,
 And wiser he had grown.
 But in the stead of what he thought
 By lawless means to know,
 The *knowledge* of those things was taught,
 Which bringeth sense of *wo*.

2 Had he as forward strove to be,
 The *Fruit of Life* to tast,
 As on the *Death-procuring-Tree*
 A lustful eye to cast,
 The happiness for him prepar'd
 In *soul* he had obtain'd,
 And in his *Body* also shar'd
 The bliss for him ordain'd.

3 But since the *flesh* did press to see
 Her wants before the time,
 Both *soul* and *flesh* afflicted be
 For that presumptuous *Crime*.

And

And cumbred so with pain and care,
 For *Clothing* and for *Food*,
 That little their Endeavours are,
 To seek their chiefest good.
 4 Lord, with a *Rose* of *Innocence*,
 Thy *Servant* so array,
 That it may take the painful sense
 Of *outward wants* away.
 So clothe me with thy *Righteousness*,
 That (though defil'd I am)
 I may not by my *nakedness*
 Exposed be to *shame*.
 5 Let not the *Garments* which I wear
 My tender flesh to hide,
 Be either made a *lustful Snare*,
 Or *nourishments* of *Pride*;
 But be remembrances to show
 The folly of that deed
 By which *man* fell, and fell so low,
 As those *base Rags* to need.

The Second Temporary Hymn.

*A Temporary Hymn for the First Day of the Week,
 commonly called the Lords-Day, or Sunday.*

Great Lord of Time, great King of Heav'n,
 Since weekly thou renew'st my dayes,
 To thee shall *daylie thanks* be giv'n,
 And *weekly Sacrifice* of Praise.

This day the *Light* (Time's eldest born)
 Her glorious Beams did first display;

E e

And

And then the *Evening* and the *Morn*
Did first obtain the Name of *Day*.

2 The Depth with *Darkness* then empal'd,
(That out of which the World was made)
And, which *deep Waters* thou hast call'd,
Upon this Day beginning had.

And, as upon this Day it was
In which *Creation* first begun,
So on this Day the work of *Grace*
In ev'ry circumstance was done.

3 For, on this Day thy *Christ* arose,
And Victor over *Death* became.
This Day he conquer'd all his Foes,
And put them to perpetual shame.

Upon this Day it pleas'd thee
Thy *holy Spirit* down to send,
That men with Gifts might furnish'd be,
Thy Gospel's Preaching to attend.

4 This day therefore we set apart
For *holy Rest*, and *holy Rites*;
And ev'ry sanctified heart
To celebrate this day delights.

Except thereto compell'd by need,
Works for the *Body* we forbear,
That in those works we may proceed,
Which for the souls health needful are.

5 Therefore that now to thee, oh Lord,
A due *Oblation* bring I may,
Thus to thine Honor I record,
And sing the Blessings of this day.

So let me sing, so mind them still,
And all my life so thankful be,
That when my *Course* I shall fulfil,
I may acceptance find with thee.

6 Discretion grant me so to know
 What *Sabbath-Rites* thou dost require;
 And *Grace* my duty so to do,
 That I may keep thy Law intire.

Not doing what should not be done,
 Ner ought omitting, fit to do;
 Nor over-burth'ning any one
 With more then thou enjoin'st them to.

7 But, let me rest my body so,
 That to my *Soul* I do no wrong;
 Or, in Devotion heedless grow,
 What to my Body's rest belong:

That both in *Soul* and *Body*, Lord,
 I may still hallow ev'ry day
 According to thy *Holy word*,
 And have true Rest in thee for ay.

The Third Temporary Hymn.
 For *MONDAY*.

THis Morning brings to mind, oh GOD,
 Thy forming of this *Airy Sphere*,
 And spreading of that *Orb* abro'd,
 Wherewith we now surrounded are.

It was the Fabrick which thy hand
 Vouchsaf'd upon this day to frame;
 And, bounding *Waters* under land
 From those which are above the same.

2 This *Airy Firmament* both keeps
 All breathing Creatures here below,
 From suffocation in those Deeps
 Whereon, till then, no wind did blow.

To us this Firmament conveys
 Those *Dews*, and *Show'rs* which oft we need,
 And all those pleasant *Summer-dayes*
 Whence *Profits* and *Delights* proceed.

3 Yea, by this *Firmament* we gain
 The Vision of refreshing *Light* ;
 And thereby do as well obtain
 The use of *hearing*, and of *sight*.

For this dayes Workmanship, oh Lord,
 I praise thee now, and humbly pray,
 That I may thankfully record
 Thy daily Blessings ev'ry day.

A Personal Hymn for a Sovereign
 P R I N C E.

BY me, or by my *Father's House*
 Deserv'd it could not be,
 That I, or any one of us
 Obtained this Degree.
 But GOD who dealeth forth his own,
 As him it liketh best,
 On me those Honours hath bestown,
 Whereof I am possesst.
 2 Great hazards many undergo,
 Such Titles to acquire,
 Yet neither find content below,
 Or means of rising higher.
 What therefore can I less repay,
 To him whose Gift it is,
 Then otherwhile to sing or say
 Some such-like *Hymn* as this?

- 3 Let me, O Lord, my Diadem
Unto thy Glory wear,
And be a Blessing unto them
Who my Leige People are.
Let not thy favours make my heart
To swell with wanton Pride ;
Or, from those Precepts to depart,
Which ought to be my Guide.
- 4 But make me still in mind to bear,
From whom this Throne I had,
And that they my own Brethren are
Who *Ruler* I was made.
Yea, cause me evermore to heed
That I and they are thine,
Although to serve the Publike need,
Their Goods and Lives are mine.
- 5 Since ev'ry *Subjects* Cause to me
Should equally be dear,
In Judgment let the *poor man* be
As precious as the *Peer*.
And, lest for them we snares may make
At my chief *Council-bo'rd*,
Lord let me dayly Counsel take
From thy *Truth-speaking-Word*.
- 6 Those Traitors chase out of my *Court*,
Who dare pervert the *Laws*,
Or, cause me by a false report,
To wrong an honest Cause.
And, let thy Judgments them devour,
How high soe're they stand
Who shall abuse my Royal Pow'r,
To hinder thy Command.
- 7 Within my *Realms* let no man dare
My Statutes to gainsay ;

And, let me live in as much fear,
Thy Laws to disobey.
So I and they whom thou on me,
For *Subjects* hast bestown,
Shall in each other blessed be,
And keep Sedition down.
8 Preserve to me my Royal Dues,
And Grace vouchsafe me still,
My just *Prerogative* to use
According to thy Will;
That evil men may dread my frown,
The Righteous comfort find,
And I obtain a better Crown
When this must be resign'd.

*Here ends the First Part of this Review, to which a
Second Part shall be added as GOD enables and
permits.*

A POSTSCRIPT.

THE uncertainty and changeableness of all temporal things, make us accordingly mutable in our Purposes. And whereas the Author of the several Books here abbreviated, intended a Retirement to a solitary Habitation in the place of his Nativity, (upon such Considerations as were expressed in the Preface of this Review) his Friends resident in and near London, not approving thereof, have perswaded him to the contrary, by making it probable, That future Inconveniencies would be thereby rather multiplied then diminished: Now therefore, by considering therewithall, That where GOD's Judgments are most visible, his Mercy will be there as much evidenced to all who love and trust unfeignedly in him, he resolveth to continue where he is, until he can stay there no longer, lest he may bury himself alive by removing far from them, by whose Charity GOD hath hitherto preserved him.

There are Faults escaped in the Imprinting or Transcribing of this Review: which the Author's late Sickness disabled him to take notice of: The Readers are therefore desired to correct and amend them according to their own discretion.

Th:

The Names of those Printed Books heretofore written by GEORGE WITHER, out of which this First Part of this Review of Neglected Remembrances, Precautions and Preditions was collected; mentioning the years in which they were the First or Second time Imprinted.

B ritans Remembrancer, Imprinted 1627.	pag. 1.
The Author's Motto, Nec Habeo, Nec Careo, Nec Curo, Imprinted 1618.	P. 47.
Campo Musæ, or Field-Musings, Impr. 1644.	P. 49.
The Dark Lanthorn, Imprinted 1650.	P. 57.
The Perpetual Parliament, Imprinted 1650.	P. 69.
The Author's Emblems, Imprinted 1634.	P. 78.
An Interjection, being a sudden Ejaculation cast in, at the Collecting of this Review,	P. 85.
Vaticinium Causuale, Imprinted 1655.	P. 100.
Verses to the Kings Majesty, Imprinted 1662.	P. 103.
A Thankful Retribution, Imprinted 1649.	P. 109.
Boni Ominis Votum, Imprinted 1656.	P. 115.
A Si Quis, or Queries, Imprinted 1648.	P. 119.
The Author's Petition, Imprinted 1648.	P. 125.
The Tyred Petitioner, Imprinted without date.	P. 128.
Se Defendendo, Imprinted without date.	P. 132.
Justitiarius Justificatus, Impr. without date.	P. 131.
Vox Pacifica, Imprinted 1645.	P. 132.
Carmen Expostulatorium, Imprinted 1647.	P. 145.
Letter of Advice, Imprinted 1644.	P. 152.
A Cause Allegorically stated, Impr. 1657.	P. 159.
Mercurius Rusticus, Imprinted without date.	P. 161.
What Peace to the Wicked, Imprinted 1646.	P. 163.
An Address to the Members of Parliament, imprinted 1657.	P. 175.
Hallelujah, or Britan's Second Remembrancer, imprinted 1641.	P. 183.

FINIS.

